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KUWAIT

SYRIAN ENVOY COMMENTS ON MEETING WITH AMIR

JN011958Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 1 Mar 78 JN

[Text] Kuwait--Dr Adib ad-Dawudi, President Hafiz al-Asad's political adviser, conveyed a message from President Hafiz al-Asad to Kuwaiti Ruler Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad when he was received by his highness the amir at noon today.

In a statement to the SANA correspondent in Kuwait, Dr ad-Dawudi said: The message deals with the latest developments in the situation in the Arab area and the changes that have recently taken place in this situation. This is in accordance with the method President Hafiz al-Asad has adopted in his relations with his brethren the leaders of the fraternal Arab states to acquaint them with Syria's viewpoint regarding the development of events and to hold consultations with them regarding these developments.

Dr ad-Dawudi added that his tour comprises the Arab Gulf states, in continuation of the consultations with the leaders of these states. Dr ad-Dawudi said: The meeting with his highness the amir of Kuwait was positive and friendly. He added that President Hafiz al-Asad's messages refer to all the events and activities recently undertaken by Syria on the Arab and international levels in the interests of the Arab nation, in defense of the Arab nation's inalienable rights, in clinging to the resolutions of the Algiers and Rabat summit conferences, and in affirmation of the firm stand regarding the Palestinian people's rights and the PLO in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Concluding his statement, Dr ad-Dawudi said: The messages also deal with the results of the second steadfastness and confrontation summit, which was held in Algiers, and the results of President Hafiz al-Asad's recent visit to the Soviet Union. Dr Adib ad-Dawudi left Kuwait this afternoon en route to Bahrain to convey a similar message from President al-Asad to the amir of Bahrain.

OFFICIAL SAYS KUWAIT COOPERATES IN COMBATING TERROR

LD022215Y Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 1 Mar 78 p 1 LD

[Text] Under Secretary of the Ministry of the Interior Maj Gen 'Abd al-Latif ath-Thuwayni has stressed that Kuwait condemns terror in all forms and cooperates with the fraternal and friendly countries and the international authorities in combating terror and the arrest of terrorists. This is because it believes in the need for the role of the law and for providing security and safety for every person regardless of his race or religion. Major General ath-Thuwayni added: Kuwait cooperates with all the countries on the basis of these established principles. Therefore, Kuwait did not refuse a request--in fact it received no such request--for German officers to come and conduct investigations regarding terrorists involved in major crimes. Major General ath-Thuwayni said that the report by the German DPA news agency--published by AS-SIYASAH yesterday--which said that some terrorists involved in major crimes are present in Kuwait and Baghdad and that the governments of both countries refused a request for German officers to carry out investigations in their countries, is totally unfounded and far from the truth and reality. It is recalled that the said agency attributed the report to Bonn sources.

UAE

SYRIAN ENVOY ARRIVES WITH MESSAGE FOR SHAYKH ZAYID

JN021247Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 2 Mar 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi--Dr Adib ab-Dawudi, the political adviser to President Hafiz al-Asad, arrived in Abu Dhabi today from Manama on a 1-day visit to the UAE in the course of his tour of the gulf states to convey messages from the president to the heads of these states.

YEMEN--PDRY

LEADERS CONGRATULATE BREZHNEV ON VICTORY AWARD

LD011624Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 1 Mar 78 LD/EA

[Text] Brothers 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the United Political Organization-National Front [UPONF] Central Committee; Salim Rubayyii 'Ali, assistant secretary general and chairman of the Presidential Council; and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, member of the Politburo and prime minister, have cabled congratulations to Comrade Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, on the occasion of the award to him of the victory medal. Following is the text of the cable:

On behalf of the UPONF Central Committee, the government and people of the PDRY, we are pleased to offer you our heartiest congratulations and sentiments of friendship on the occasion of the award to you of the victory medal for the devoted services you have given throughout your life in defense of the first homeland of socialism and for the entrenchment of world peace and friendship among people. The award to you of this high medal, which falls on the 60th anniversary of the founding of the courageous Soviet Army, symbolizes the magnificent victories won by the Soviet Army in the field of building a developed socialist society and the prominent role played by it in defense of the socialist achievements on the Soviet and world planes.

At the present, when world imperialism is inflaming the hotbeds of tension and the infernos of regional wars and is encouraging aggression, the might of the USSR and the other socialist countries constitutes the invincible fortress that insures a path of humanity and protects it from destructive warfare. The leaders of the UPONF and the government of our country express their high appreciation for your personal activity and your noble efforts in defense of the gains of humanity and the establishment of firm peace in the world. We express our confidence that the concerted anti-imperialist efforts of the USSR and the forces of progress and peace in the world will be crowned with victory and will serve to strengthen further the determination of the world revolutionary movement and the aspirations of all peoples for a world dominated by freedom, progress, friendship and peace.

Our two peoples and parties have taken firm steps along the path of friendship and cooperation between them, and wider horizons have opened up to our peoples for fruitful cooperation. On this occasion we wish to express our satisfaction at the developing friendship between the PDRY and the USSR and our appreciation for the assistance given by the Soviet people to our people for the realization of socialist progress.

YEMEN--YAR

PRESIDENT APPROVES PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY BYLAWS

JN242026 [Editorial report JN] San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic at 1700 GMT on 24 February carries the text of Law No 19 of 1978 approving the bylaws of the newly formed YAR People's Constituent Assembly. The radio then broadcasts the 35-minute text of the assembly's bylaws, which consist of 65 articles outlining the structure, functions and powers of the assembly and its various committees, as well as other general rules.

Article 1 stipulates that the assembly shall be composed of 99 members. It is not specified whether these will be elected or appointed members. Article 3 stipulates that the speaker and his two deputies shall be elected from among the assembly members by a majority vote during the first meeting of the assembly. These appointments are subject to the approval of the Command Council chairman.

Article 12 stipulates that the assembly shall form the following parliamentary committees: The Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee, the Codification of Islamic Law Committee, the Electoral Committee and any other committees which the assembly may deem fit to form.

Article 24 stipulates that the assembly shall meet for 6 months every year and that the Command Council chairman shall call each session to meet. The assembly shall meet from the beginning of March until the end of April, from the beginning of July until the end of August, and from the beginning of November until the end of December. "The assembly may be called to an extraordinary session if requested by the Command Council chairman." The assembly's meetings shall be puclic, "but it is permissible in the public interest for the assembly to meet on camera with the approval of the Command Council chairman." During its ordinary session the assembly shall meet every Tuesday afternoon, but it may meet on any other day to consider urgent matters.

Article 48 stipulates: "After familiarizing itself with the government's statement on the general state budget, the assembly shall form a special committee to study the budget. The committee may call in any minister or government official to facilitate its work or for any necessary qualifications and statements."

Article 49 stipulates: "The budget committee shall submit its report on the budget to the speaker so the assembly can make the necessary observations and then refer the budget and the report to the chairman of the Command Council."

Article 54 stipulates that the assembly can only meet if a majority of its members are present and that decisions shall be passed by a majority vote of those present.

Article 60 stipulates that the assembly members shall be sworn in before the chairman of the Command Council and commander in chief of the armed forces.

FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM UAE MINISTER

JN281756Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 28 Feb 78 JN

[Text] Foreign Minister brother 'Abdallah al-Asnaj today received his excellency the UAE ambassador in San'a'. The SABA' NEWS AGENCY has learned that his excellency the ambassador conveyed a message to the brother minister from his brother the UAE foreign minister dealing with the current Arab situation and means for strengthening Arab solidarity.

AS-SADAT SENDS PERSONAL MESSAGE TO BEGIN

NC021251Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1248 GMT 2 Mar 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 2 March--MENA has learned that at their meeting yesterday, President Anwar as-Sadat asked U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Alfred Atherton to convey a personal verbal message from his excellency to Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin. Official circles at the Foreign Ministry refused to comment on the contents of the message.

PAPER DENIES REPORT ON AS-SADAT-BEGIN MEETING

NC030749Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0705 GMT 3 Mar 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 3 March--Today's issue of the newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH reports that President Anwar as-Sadat's message to Begin does not include any specific commitments from Egypt. The paper adds that the report broadcast by Israeli radio about an impending meeting between As-Sadat and Begin is not true.

AS-SADAT MEETS WITH OFFICIALS OF ISMAILIA PROVINCE

NC021930Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 2 Mar 78 NC

[Text] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat met this evening with the chairmen of the boards of directors of the agricultural, industrial and tourist complexes in Ismailia Province. The meeting was attended by Engineer Ibrahim Shukri, minister of agriculture; Engineer Hasaballah al-Kafrawi, minister of housing and reconstruction; Maj Gen Mahmud Zaki 'Abd al-Latif, governor of Ismailia; Engineer Mashhur Ahamad Mashhur, chief of the Suez Canal Authority; and Engineer 'Uthman Ahmad 'Uthman, head of the parliamentary group.

During the meeting, President as-Sadat discussed the achievements made by the complexes since their establishment and the elimination of the obstacles standing in their way in accordance with the state's plan to provide food and alimentary products and to turn Ismailia Province into an enormous farm to meet the needs of the provinces in the area of vegetables, fruits, poultry, eggs and livestock while taking an interest in the reclamation of land to the east and west of the canal.

Ismailia Governor Mahmud Saki 'Abd al-Latif had earlier presented a detailed report to the president on the existing agricultural and industrial projects in Ismailia Province--which deal with the development and promotion of the production of vegetables and fruits, improvement of the soil and the combating of pests as well as irrigation and drainage works in the province.

Further Report on Meeting

NC022116Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 2 Mar 78 NC

[Excerpts] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat met this evening with the chairmen of the boards of directors of the new integrated agricultural, industrial and tourist complexes in the Ismailia Province. Engineer 'Uthman Ahmad 'Uthman, head of the Ismailia Province parliamentary group, made a speech praising the president's efforts for peace and for building modern Egypt--the Egypt of October. He then submitted a report about the number of companies formed in the Ismailia Province in all industrial, agricultural, and tourist sectors. President Anwar as-Sadat then made a speech in which he expressed his profound happiness.

As-Sadat Speech

NC030600Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2117 GMT 2 Mar 78 NC

[Speech by President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat during a meeting with the chairmen of the boards of directors of agricultural, industrial and tourist complexes in Ismailia Province on 2 March--recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, I am extremely happy to be meeting with you tonight. I have asked for this meeting so that your country and your people will know what you have done. I am happy because I have been following what we had agreed upon during my last visit around the end of last year. I thank God that everything is moving and that progress is being made, as I heard in the report of the governor and the report of Engineer 'Uthman, head of the parliamentary group here. This really makes me profoundly happy. This is our battle. We must work and produce.

You heard me speak in Port Said yesterday. Last summer when I met with you here--my last meeting with you late last summer--there was some doubt expressed by some people in Cairo about Port Said. We thank God. In less than 2 years since the beginning of the free city experiment, Port Said has been able, as you heard yesterday, to contribute 1 million pounds to the projects for the conquest of the desert. This is in addition to what Port Said is doing in the way of internal construction and port improvement, from a capacity of less than 1 million tons to 2 or 3 million tons, plus work in every direction. Every time I visit Port Said I see new achievements and fresh prosperity.

The same thing is happening here, thank God. I wanted your people and friends throughout the republic to hear about your activity and production in your province here, for the prosperity of the individual and the whole state.

Our main problem, as you heard me say in Port Said yesterday, is food security. As I said yesterday, we have reached the stage where we are about to explode because the country is not producing sufficient food for the population. The result is that the budget for consumer goods has been used up, which is a most dangerous thing. I said when I was with you last time that the most dangerous thing is when a person, in his home and during his life, has to borrow to eat rather than to build and develop. It is ruinous for one to have to borrow to be able to eat.

Thank God we are now overcoming this with the projects that are being carried out in every sector. I consider that what I heard today and what all my people will hear is indeed a pioneering experiment which must be applied to all the provinces. All the companies formed here--and I have seen them myself since their formation--have actually begun to operate and are in the first stages of production and developing to stages of full production later on.

We must face our main problem, that is the problem of food security, and the other problem, which is the housing problem. These are two pressing problems, and they require work, sweat and efforts to find a solution for them. I do not mean temporary solution through imports, but a permanent solution by seeing to it that our production is sufficient to meet our consumption and in addition to provide a surplus for export or for storage. The companies which have emerged in Ismailia, which I just heard a report about and which you, of course, have heard about, as you all are involved in these companies, and which our republic will hear about, constitute an integrated economic venture.

The food security work is in progress, as are the projects we agreed upon at the end of last year--projects of irrigation, drainage and study of the quality of the unconventional crops you produce--all are being excellently carried out. I am indeed happy to say that all the officials who have made this effort have all my appreciation and the appreciation of all their people. However, you still have to prove that this work you have started must, in every company, fulfill the objective according to plan. This is a vital matter and this project here should serve as an example for all the provinces in the republic and for your kin and your people--an example of the new person of October, free from everything, enjoying complete freedom, democracy, and security. This is why his product and performance must be perfect.

It has been essential for us to deal with a basic matter and find solutions for it. This matter is the relationship between the individual and the society. In the past the individual's relationship with the society was based on the premise that, in accordance with the ideology imported at the time, the individual might be sacrificed for the sake of the community. Well, the result was that the individual was indeed sacrificed but not for the sake of the community but in order to maintain the authority of the centers of power. Under the slogan of sacrificing the individual for the sake of the community, neither the community nor the individual benefited, and we all reached the stage of danger, to the point that, as you heard, 5 days before starting the October battle I told the National Security Council that our economy was below zero. Yet, we embarked on our battle and we never hesitated because it was a matter of Egypt's honor and a question of restoring confidence and, above all, restoring the whole world's confidence in us. We regained our self-confidence and we found a solution to the question of the relationship between the individual and the society. It must be known that the object here is man, man's dignity and man's security. [applause] Since this has been attained, there is no reason why everyone should not do his utmost so that we may make up for what we missed and build the new edifice on strong and sound foundations.

We advocate democratic socialism. I have explained it before. We do not import the ideologies and principles of others, but we have open minds and open hearts and we want to benefit from every experiment around us and we must continue to have an open mind and an open heart in order to benefit from all that is happening around us. This is so not only in relation to ideologies but also in relation to the world technology, which has advanced and continues to make long strides every day. There was a time when we limited ourselves and, as a result, reached that point of danger of explosion. This is because with a population of 3 million, 17 million, 20 million, 30 million, and 40 million Egypt lived in the same area and cultivated the same area. We are living on 4 percent of Egypt's territory and we are cultivating 6 million feddan. This was the case when our population was 3 million, 17 million, 20 million, 30 million and 40 million. It has remained the same: 4 percent of the area and 6 million feddan. I even feared that part of the 6 million feddan were lost by being allocated to the projects which were built on agricultural land, so I issued instructions completely banning the construction of new projects on agricultural land.

The work you have begun here in Ismailia is very important for Egypt's future because it is a model and example which must be followed throughout the country. Production must be coupled with the efforts of the individual, with the efforts of man and with man's ambition in a way that will never be inconsistent with the freedom of the society and in a way that will not allow man to exploit, monopolize or possess what is not his legally his or to avoid giving the state its due.

We have no complexes at all now. There were complexes in the past due to foreign domination, foreign capital and fears arising from such capital because it was influential. As you know, colonialism in the past began with operation of companies and capital followed by armies. The East India Company, which colonized all India, was a British company which first operated as a company and subsequently colonized all India for a period of 300 years or so.

We have no such complexes at all. We welcome British capital to help us develop our country. If the situation satisfies capital investors, fine. If the situation does not satisfy capital investors, they are free to leave. Prospective capital investors and foreign experts must know that this country is a civilized one, and if such capital investors want to coopeate with us their cooperation is welcome but if they want to dictate terms we say no. Nobody tries to do this. Why? Because they know in advance whether a country will accept or reject having terms dictated.

We are now asking for modern technology and contributions in order to improve our performance. I gave an example of this process last year when it was said that the foreign banks which had come here had usurped the place of the Egyptian banks and were going to destroy the Egyptian banks. I am speaking frankly. Our Egyptian banks, thanks to the influence of ideology and the system that was applied, turned into government offices. A bank cannot work if it is part of the government. It loses its value and mission as a bank if it is turned into a government office and adopts its routine. No. The foreign banks came. They have been here in Egypt for over a year now. They have made profits and our banks have also made profits. Nothing happened.

If an investor in a bank wishes to withdraw his investments, we tell him: Goodby. Take your money. We have no objections at all. We have no complexes at all. On the contrary, everything must be exploited to develop Egypt in the most splendid manner and as quickly as possible so that we may compensate for what we have lost.

As I have told you, we have been living on 4 percent of the area. When we were only 3 million, we lived on the same area. Now we are 40 million and are still living on the same area. Therefore, we are liable to explode. We have a housing crisis. We have the desert around us. We have the land. Water has been discovered. Therefore, we have water, land, a suitable climate, peasants and experienced people in our universities. Modern experiences have emerged in the world and we must obtain and make use of these experiences in the new construction if we are to keep up developments in the world. Why should we lag behind in this? It is on this basis that the concept of the new socieities started. We must start to implement this concept because it will solve two problems simultaneously. It will solve the problem of the population explosion--new societies will emerge, develop and achieve all their hopes. At the same time, these societies will make achievements, whether in agriculture or industry. Thus, general production will increase. There will be a surplus instead of the dangerous phase we have reached--the phase of borrowing in order to eat.

The 10 Ramadan City is an example of what must be done with regard to the areas along the Cairo-Ismailia road. We have 100 km stretching from Cairo to Ismailia. The 10 Ramadan City has been established on part of this stretch.

Development along this stretch must be complemented with a network of new societies and cities such as 10 Ramadan City linking Cairo with Ismailia. We have the water, the climate, the land, roads and peasants. What excuses do we have then? Modern agricultural technology, such as irrigation by spraying, is being applied here. I saw this as I flew over this area on my way here. This is a new agricultural method.

We no longer complain of water shortages. In the past there were big and small floods creating water shortages. We used to let the water flow into the Mediterranean in order to protect the old Aswan Dam and bridges from collapsing. Today, following the construction of the High Dam, the lake of the High Dam is full of water. The danger we face today is that we have such a water surplus that we must take steps to ease the pressure in the event of unusual floods. This calls for a balancing operation. The complaint is no longer one of water shortages. No. The problem is how to prevent water excess from causing any damage. This has prompted the construction of the (Dushki) Canal in order to balance the water level behind the dam. What does this mean? It means that I have excess water. There are 3 million feddans near the lake of the dam south of the Western Desert. A study is underway to lay one or more water pipelines from Lake Nasir to the new societies. I want these new societies to be founded on modern agricultural technology. We should not consume 7,000 cubic meters of water for a single feddan as we are now doing in the valley. No. New methods such as spraying or sprinkling or any other modern method in the world must be applied. These 3 million feddans, which represent more than half of the area on which we have lived for about 70 years, must be cultivated with modern, untraditional methods. As you know, untraditional cultivation will yield three or four times more than traditional cultivation methods. These should be applied. There should be agroindustrial collectives set up on the most modern lines. We will work to achieve all this.

As you know, the As-Salihiyah area around Ismailia covers about 300,000 feddans. A new society will be established here. There are also about 300,000 feddans or more in Sinai, which I saw by air. New societies can be established everywhere. However, one basic thing must be available, namely, individual initiative.

In the past, we went to reclaim At-Tahirir Province, where hundreds of millions of pounds had been spent but the land had not been cultivated. Consequently, I directed that companies should undertake agricultural industrialization there. These projects are now producing. My only role in the new societies will be to supply them with water, which creates life, and to build roads. I will then ask every individual to show his initiative and what he can do. All kind of services will be provided in the villages. These villages will be of a medium size and located in the center of each area. Each village will have a doctor, a veterinarian, agricultural and irrigation officials as well as a bank which will follow up the work. It will also include a tractor company which will serve all the people working in the area. All this is being studied in a scientific way so that we may benefit from the latest progress in the world and so that, at the same time, the individual will be able to show initiative.

Without individual initiative in this we will never succeed. The individual should not wait for me to build a villa or an asphalt road for him or to prepare the land for him, as we have done in At-Tahrir Governorate. No country in the world has done this, not even the United States, which has the largest production in the history of the world.

According to statistics, the amount of food thrown away in American hotels could feed a continent. During my last visit I met with the U.S. secretary of agriculture. I asked him about wheat production. He told me that the farmers came to Washington and staged a demonstration. He told me that the farmers came and besieged him in his office. Why? Because their wheat production had undergone an incredible increase and they demanded that the government intervene and purchase it from them. The government agreed to build silos for the farmers, and the problem was solved. The wheat in the silos thus became the property of the state. This is just like the story of Joseph. What did they tell them? They told them: We will store it in the silos so that in the event there is no rain in any one year or in the event anything happens to the crop, there will be enough to cover that year and more--the 7 lean years of Joseph as cited in the Koran. This was as far as wheat only was concerned.

As you know, food production in the United States is unbelievable. There is every type of food: poultry, vegetables, fruit, everything. This is due to individual incentive.

We are not going to be a capitalist state in the sense of metelling anyone: Do as you like as they do under the capitalist system. We have tried both experiments. We experimented with capitalism before the 23 July Revolution. All of you who lived during that period remember that at the time there was a class which enjoyed everything in Egypt while the rest of the people were deprived of everything, of all privileges, because this is how it is under the capitalist system. Under the capitalist system, the individual is absolutely free to do what he likes. After the revolution and after 1960, we applied a kind of socialism through which we tried to proceed toward Marxism. The experiment failed just as the experiment of capitalism failed. The most serious failure in it was the negativeness it instilled in man. I came and assumed power and saw that man was negative. The university graduate wanted a villa, a car and a job without exerting any effort.

This cannot happen anywhere except through efforts, through self-assertion. We have read and seen how other countries have developed themselves, how men built log cabins for themselves. You must have seen American films of the past 50 years. Houses were made of mud and logs before the United States became the biggest economic power. Every individual must have the incentive to assert himself.

What is good for us is the middle system represented by democratic socialism. This enables the individual to assert himself but when he resorts to monopoly or to not paying the state or the society of the single family its due, the state will intervene and stop him.

As for the vegetable marketing company which I asked you to form last year, I have heard that there have been some difficulties in marketing its produce. This can happen. However, it is good that there has been production. The problem is that there have been some difficulties in marketing the produce. We will solve these difficulties. We want production.

I asked you to form this company in order to provide the citizens with vegetables at reasonable prices. The farmers will make some profit, the consumers will buy vegetables at reasonable prices and will be able to live in prosperity, thus bringing about equilibrium throughout the country.

You must discuss all the obstacles which led to the failure to market the produce. Our whole problem is that we need production. You must overcome the problems you encounter by training people to market products. This is important because should a greedy merchant one day try to exploit the situation, the state will intervene and tell him to stop. The state will have produce to deal with such a situation.

For this reason, our democratic socialism does not allow what all-out capitalism allows. Nor does it allow for the individual's freedom and incentive being sequestered. When we sequestered the individual's incentives, hopes, freedom and security, we saw to what level we sunk--a dangerous level indeed. No matter how long I talk to you, I will not be able to describe to you what I suffered before the October battle and then after the October battle.

The suffering has abated now. However, we will continue to suffer until 1980. After that the people's production from their land should be sufficient and a surplus should remain. We will not buy these products from abroad but from our own land.

We have no excuse. We have the land, we have the climate, we have the farmer, we have water, we have the will and we have the incentive.

God willing, on my forthcoming visit to the governorates, I will be able to pass by the land where there are 1 million feddan. There are other areas where ministers and experts have been working for a time. I have the studies which have been made about these areas. This applies not only to agricultural lands but also to minerals. You may recall that I have appointed Dr Faruq al-Baz [U.S. scientist of Egyptian origin] as my scientific adviser. I sent an invitation to him 2 days ago to accompany me on the trip. With the help of space satellite photographs, he was able to discover several minerals. During the periods when he was spending his vacations in Egypt, Dr al-Baz worked hard and discovered through space satellite photographs several areas containing new minerals.

We are working in every direction, be it in the field of minerals or agriculture. However, agriculture is the basis. Keep this in mind. We made a great mistake when we concentrated all our efforts on industry and forgot agriculture until we reached the point of famine, danger and explosion. We are now leaving this point of danger with difficulty.

As I told you, it is the ugliest thing for one to borrow in order to eat. Creditors may lend him money but he is borrowing in order to eat. How will he pay out his debts? A day will come when the creditors will tell him: This is enough. We will not lend to you. Pay back your debts.

If someone wants to borrow, we must borrow in order to build and establish something, not in order to eat and consume, thus eventually bringing ruin upon himself.

You have set a splended example for the projects which we must implement in the coming stage. You have a land suitable for agriculture. You have expanded the agriculture. You have set up a transport company, which is earning money. I have followed up the activity of this company and have found that it is earning money. You have set up other companies, like the cold storage company, which I have just heard about. There is also the aluminum company. You have also set up a poultry farm for the sake of food security. There is both horizontal and vertical expansion.

This is the example I want to see followed in all the governorates, because without this, we will face the most serious catastrophe in our life: We will explode from within. We must carry out these activities. We have new lands, new hopes and open incentives to fill every individual's life with work and hope and to give him more than he imagines. As long as an individual tries and sweats, he can assert himself in the best way.

The sum total of the individuals' activities are the activity of the state. The sum total of the individuals' prosperity is the prosperity of the state. Why do we advocate democratic socialism? Because we will not allow the formation of a class system through money, land or capital. We want prosperity for the broad base of the people.

The broad base will not achieve prosperity unless everybody works inside and outside the broad base with the maximum possible potential. Production will increase and will benefit everyone. As you have heard me say, nations are measured by their broad base, not by the few who sit on the top.

No, nations are judged by their broad base and every country is free to choose the system it wants. Those who practice Marxism are free in their country and in their will. Those who practice capitalism are free. By practicing democratic socialism in our country, we too are free. Let nobody try to rectify our life for us. We will rectify our life in light of our experiment--and the experiment carried out in our country has not been carried out in any other country. This is so because we have seen the shortcomings of the two systems. We witnessed absolute capitalism before 23 July. Had it not been for the 23 July Revolution, that capitalism would have led to a massacre of the former upper class. [applause] Had it not been for the 23 July Revolution, the upper class would have been massacred by all of the people. On the other hand, we tried an imported Marxist system, which resulted in absolute negativeness and the total breakdown of the individual and his capabilities. Consequently, that system also ended in a breakdown of the whole country and its potential. If every individual in the country is negative, incapable of work and unproductive, how is the country to produce anything?

Therefore, I am indeed delighted with your experiment. I saw Port Said's experiment with the free zone city yesterday. It is totally different from your own experiment. I now see a new experiment, a consortium of companies which will ultimately yield food security, a transport network, new societies and new towns, a reclamation of larger areas of land, increased production and the replacement of traditional crops with untraditional crops--the latter producing three or four times more revenue than land cultivated with traditional crops. This is an excellent experiment and an integrated framework. In the final stages there will be a bank to steer and finance all these activities. Each company and each aspect of activity within this experiment will perform its role in an exemplary manner.

I have been wanting to meet with you so that the people will hear about this experiment and so that it will set an example for them. This is so because Egypt's future lies in the fact that it is imperative for us to lay the groundwork for the future generations to serve as the basis for rebuilding on fortified, firm foundations. Such a rebuilding process would forge ahead without limits, ultimately resulting in every human being of our broad popular base leading the most dignified life possible. Thanks to God, and I have told you, we have been blessed with land, climate, water and everything else. It only remains for the human individual to prove himself.

On this occasion, I thank you and wish you further progress and success. I hope to witness similar achievements during all my upcoming visits. I thank God because, when we met last year, we spoke of numerous projects. Before I returned here, I saw all the statements submitted to me. Now I am back. You are all now here sitting with me, and I can see that well over 80 percent of what we had agreed upon has been implemented. All this is progressing along with the new companies and the new awareness and the new thinking--the thinking of free, strong and productive human beings who, in their lives, feel daily security for themselves, their kin and the future generations, namely, their sons and grandchildren after them.

I implore God to grant you success. I call on all to study the pioneering experiment that is going on here. God willing, I will seek help from Engineer 'Uthman in the rest of the governorates to see to it that the model implemented here will be implemented in all the other governorates. I thank the ministers for the efforts they have exerted. The agriculture minister was with us at our last meeting. He came to my office some 2 or 3 days ago. The minister of housing and reconstruction was also with me. He is now here with us and will fully participate with me as part of the working group which is on this tour with me to prepare for the new societies and the whole new process, including the irrigation and what has been completed of it and what has already been achieved. This is so because it is a basic thing for us to prepare the land for the future we aspire to. I thank the housing minister. However, when it comes to the governors, Ismailia Governor Zaki has exerted a sterling effort to implement what I had asked for some months ago. In just a few months, 80 percent of what I had requested has been achieved. I express all my gratitude to this governor. He will be shown special appreciation [applause], he and the governor of Port Said, for the efforts which they have exerted. They have set an example to be followed throughout the republic. They have also set an example for the other governors.

However, I implore God to grant you success. May you always preserve this example and this pioneering act of reconstruction. I hope you always preserve this example and this pioneering act of reconstruction. I hope you will make an example of Ismailia for all the governorates. May God grant you success. Peace be with you.

AL-JAMASI MEETS WITH AIR, SHOCK FORCES MEN

NC0218llY Cairo MENA in Arabic 1545 GMT 2 Mar 78 NC

[Excerpt] Cairo, 2 March--Gen Muhammad al-Jamasi, deputy prime minister and minister of war and war production, has said that the assassination of martyr Yusuf as-Siba'i was the beginning of a new phase of terrorist actions against Egypt and its sons. He stressed that Egypt will not submit to terrorism or piracy.

Speaking at his meeting today with the air and shock forces men who took part in the Larnaca airport operation in Cyprus in order to honor them and to distribute medals and badges of honor to them, General al-Jamasi said: We are waiting until the dimensions of this plan are uncovered. The armed forces will constantly be prepared to perform their mission in preserving the security of the state and its citizens.

General al-Jamasi said that the indictment points to the persons and quarters who stood behind this operation. He emphasized that those who planned and participated in the execution of the operation will not escape unpunished.

General al-Jamasi added that the armed forces sustain losses while training and preparing for war and said that this is the destiny of the men of the armed forces. However, our profound regret is that in the Cyprus incident there was treachery which led to the falling of several martyrs and to several wounded. This consequently turned the force's talk into a suicide mission in view of the circumstances to which it was subjected as a result of the Cypriot forces' interference.

Concluding his speech General al-Jamasi said: While we are today honoring some of the air force and shock force men, we are at the same time honoring all men of the armed forces. Such a moral honor means that the armed forces will always be prepared for sacrifices. We will honor the families of the martyrs and we will spare no efforts in looking after them.

General al-Jamasi this morning visited the airbase whose men took part in the Cyprus operation in order to honor the men stationed there and to distribute the medals and orders awarded to them by the president of the republic and supreme commander of the armed forces in appreciation of their unusual action and courage displayed during the Larnaca airport operation.

Al-Jamasi was accompanied by Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Lt Gen Muhammad 'Ali Fahmi, Air Force Commander Maj Gen Mahmud Shakir 'Abd al-Mun'im, Air Force Chief of Staff Maj Gen Muhammad Nabih al-Masiri, shock forces commander Maj Gen Nabil Shukri and senior commanders of the armed forces. General al-Jamasi met with the air and shock forces men in the hall named after martyr Col Yahya ar-Rafi'i, the pilot of the plane which carried the shock force men to Cyprus.

KAMIL MEETS WEST GERMAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION

NC021939Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1832 GMT 2 Mar 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 2 March--Minister of Foreign Affairs Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil met tonight with the visiting FRG parliamentary delegation led by Mrs Antje Huber, minister of youth. International questions of interest to the two countries, particularly the latest developments in the Middle East, were reviewed at the meeting.

Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil outlined the dimensions and objectives of President as-Sadat's initiative and the subsequent meetings aimed at reaching a comprehensive and just peace in the Middle East. He also outlined the Israeli obstructions, particularly at the meetings of the Political Committee, and Egypt's principled stand regarding the declaration of principles which is supported by the whole world, particularly in relation to the policy of the settlements in the occupied Arab territory and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and their right to self-determination. The foreign minister stressed that Israel's persistent stand regarding the settlements represents a basic obstacle in the way of peace and that these settlements cannot achieve security for Israel. These settlements are in fact a military presence violating the sovereignty of these territories.

It has been learned that the German parliamentary delegation expressed its support for President as-Sadat's stand and courageous initiatives and for Egypt's efforts to achieve a comprehensive and just peace.

AL-AHRAM: ATHERTON UNSUCCESSFUL IN FIRST ROUND

NC030954Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0700 GMT 3 Mar 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 3 March--The newspaper AL-AHRAM reports today that Cairo has informed Atherton that he has not achieved any progress in the first round of his talks due to Israel's stand and the Cairo believes that Israel's step in keeping the settlements presents a real obstacle to Atherton's mission and bars the prospects for peace. Egypt has emphasized to Atherton that the issue of the settlements is rejected from the standpoints of both timing and concept. The concept of settlements has also been rejected by the international community, particularly by Egypt.

The newspaper says that Egypt has explained that the Political and Military committees can resume their meetings only if progress is achieved in the course of the contacts underway to reach a declaration of principles. Egypt also explained that the obstacle which has appearned in the way to this objective is attributable to the statements issued by Israel during the contacts in which Israel has said that it is determined to pursue its policy on the establishment of the settlements, in addition to Israel's rejection of the principle of withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and its denial of the Palestinian people's rights.

The paper explains that Egypt considers Menahem Begin's appeal a confirmation of Israel's previous stands based on denying the Palestinian people's rights and the principle of withdrawal from all the Arab territories. The newspaper says that Cairo has informed Atherton that it expects the United States to exert its efforts during the upcoming visit during which Begin will start his talks in Washington with U.S. President Jimmy Carter and that Cairo considers it imperative that the U.S. commitments--which were announced by President Carter in Aswan and following his talks with President as-Sadat in Washington--should crystallize during Begin's talks in the U.S. capital in such a way that these principles will be the basis of the U.S. stand to be conveyed to Israel's prime minister.

The newspaper reports that the Egyptian quarters expect that if progress is achieved at the talks between President Carter and Begin and if Israel abandons its previous stands, a proper atmosphere might be created for the resumption of the work of the Political and Military committees.

PARIS REPORTS EGYPT TO PURCHASE 46 MIRAGE JETS

LD021130Y Paris Domestic Service in French 0900 GMT 2 Mar 78 LD

[Summary] Egypt has ordered 46 Mirage F-7 planes, which have more or less the same characteristics as the American F-16. The Americans are not pleased with this Egyptian order from France.

PRIME MINISTER SALIM OPENS NEW CAIRO SUBWAY

NC021605Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 2 Mar 78 NC

[Excerpt] At noon today Prime Minister Mamduh Salim opened the express subway line between Bab ash-Shi'riyah Square and Al-Amiriyah area, which was built by the Japanese.

CAIRO RADIO CRITICIZES BEGIN'S ATTITUDE TOWARD PEACE

NC021517Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 2 Mar 78 NC

[Muhammad Sharaf commentary: "On the Futile and Dangerous Attitude of the Israeli Prime Minister on the Peace Efforts"]

[Text] From the developments in the Middle East peace process, since President as-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem, a fundamental important fact emerges. This fact is that Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin, who is having contacts with Egypt during the current important phase in the history of the area, is not thinking in terms of the need to establish a just peace in the area on an equal footing among all the sides but in terms of imposing Israel's designs and expansion plans on the Arab territories. With this type of thinking, it must be said that Menahem Begin's logic has been consistent throughout his political life. He is known to be totally against peace and security in the area. The Israeli prime minister has been basing his thinking from the beginning on the fact that the military might of Israel, the logic of established facts and the Zionist influence in the world will insure the continuation of his policy without the need of taking anything else into consideration.

In light of this fundamental fact, we can understand the strange report which was carried by the news agencies yesterday, citing Begin. Begin called for the resumption of the work of both the Egyptian and Israeli Military and Political Committees. The Israeli prime minister said that he calls for the resumption of the negotiations with an open heart, patience, persistence and in secrecy. Begin also called for the exclusion of the subjects that are not negotiable such as the establishment of a Palestinian state and the Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories.

One cannot but ask: What subjects remain to be negotiated after these subjects have been excluded? What remains is for Egypt to sign a treaty with Israel under which Egypt will completely renounce its sovereignty over Sinai and relinquish the rights of the Palestinian people and all the other Arab rights. Why? Because the Israeli prime minister believes that Israel's military might, the existing established facts and the world Zionist influence put him in a position to dictate what he wishes to Egypt.

After all this, it is futile to discuss Menahem Begin's attitude toward international legitimacy or the UN resolutions and his interpretation of these resolutions or his attitude toward world public opinion. There is another fact, however, to which we must refer in this connection. This fact is that Egypt is exercising patience in this situation and that it is well aware of what it wants and profoundly and consciously realizes all the points of strength and weakness in the position of Begin's government.

Egypt has replied to the recent Israeli proposals brought by the U.S. assistant secretary of state. It rejected the Israeli Cabinet's statement on the Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories. It also emphasized the importance of getting things moving now in order to arrive at the declaration of principles it is demanding as a basis for the peace negotiations.

There is no need for a lot of intelligence for the Egyptian people and the peoples of the Arab nation to realize that the U.S. assistant secretary of state is not succeeding in his task. There is also no need for a lot of intelligence for the Egyptian people and the peoples of the Arab nation to realize that Begin's government does not want peace but seeks to give legitimacy, through a peace treaty, to the Israeli aggression and to the usurpation of the Palestinian people's rights. The question is: Will the Egyptian people and the peoples of the Arab nation accept such a situation under any circumstances? Have the Egyptian people and the peoples of the Arab nation exhausted all means of struggle for the sake of their national soil and their legitimate rights? The answer is: definitely not. Egypt is going ahead with the peace process before the eyes of the entire world. However, it will not give up any of its rights or any part of its soil. The Israeli prime minister will realize the futility of the policy he is pursuing and the extent of the (?disastrous) dangers it might entail.

AL-AHRAM HAILS EGYPTIAN-SUDANESE INTEGRATION PLAN

LD022305Y Cairo AL-AHARAM in Arabic 28 Feb 78 p 6 LD

[Unattributed article: "Great Future for the Nile Valley"]

[Excerpts] A great practical step in the joint action of the people of the Nile Valley was accomplished yesterday. It is indeed a step of an exemplary action to achieve economic, social and cultural integration between Egypt and Sudan as well as integration in all fields of work, growth and life. It is a step to be followed by further steps as well as a sound basis for building a great future for the Nile Valley.

The higher committee for integration between Egypt and Sudan has endorsed the establishment of an integrated area on the border between the two countries. The area includes the Governorate of Aswan in Egypt and the Northern Province in Sudan. This will be a model unit for the achievement of economic, social and cultural integration as well as for the work activities of both the Egyptians and Sudanese peoples. Daily life in the area will involve the free movement of citizens and goods. Communications and transportation projects will be carried out in it as well as a comprehensive survey of its natural resources and manpower within the development plans of both countries.

The least that can be said about this great action is that it has abolished the fabricated borders that colonialism created in order to divide the same country into two and the same people into two peoples, as well as to divide the same river into two parts--the northern part and the southern part--so that the two people could never meet or deal with one another except through these fabricated borders and through the restrictions that such borders had imposed.

The establishment of the integrated area on what used to be known as the joint borders between the two countries is in fact an abolition of these borders and a confirmation of the natural and historical unity of the river, the land and the people. It also represents the liberation of the Nile Valley from the vestiges of colonialism and of the colonialist means to divide it and partition it.

Thus, the people of the Nile Valley begin a new era of serious work for building and construction, for the exploitation of their vast resources and for the achievement of a great and bright future whose benefits will not only affect the people of the valley alone but also the people of the Arab area both in Asia and Africa. Therefore, the higher committee for integration was right in saying in its statement that this action represents a sound basis for Arab solidarity.

Indeed, this is a new life for the people of the Nile Valley and a prosperous future awaiting it. If the establishment of the integrated area is a practical step on the road to this future, then it will lead to other steps and it will create the best conditions and the most splendid results for the achievement of the major integration all along the Nile Valley.

AAPSO DELEGATION TO FOLLOW TRIAL OF ASSASSINS

NC0216llY Cairo MENA in Arabic 1530 GMT 2 Mar 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 2 March--The Permanent Secretariat of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization has asked the Federation of International Jurists to send a delegation of lawyers to Cyprus to follow the trial of the terrorists who assassinated martyr Yusuf as-Siba'i. During a meeting held today, the AAPSO Secretariat decided to send an AAPSO delegation to follow the investigations in Cyprus.

It also decided to hold an international commemorative celebration for the martyr during the first week of April. The Secretariat also named 18 February as the day of the "Afro-Asian Peoples Martyr" and decided to issue a medal depicting the martyr's name and picture as a symbol of solidarity.

It has also been decided to give one of the Cairo streets the name of martyr Yusuf as-Siba'i, issue a stamp honoring him and to erect a statue of the martyr at the Secretariat headquarters in Cairo, stage an exhibition about the martyr, issue a booklet of his photographs and activities and a commemorative book of selections from his writings and the articles written about him.

The Secretariat also decided to ask the AAPSO committees in Asia and Africa to give the name of martyr Yusuf as-Siba'i to a street or establishment in their respective countries.

EGYPTIAN-ROMANIAN TECHNICAL, ECONOMIC PROTOCOL SIGNED

NC0217S6Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1735 GMT 2 Mar 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 2 March--The protocol resulting from the 10th session of the Joint Committee for Economic and Technical cooperation between Egypt and Romania was signed today at the Ministry of Economy. The protocol was signed for Egypt by Dr Hamid as-Sayih, minister of economy and economic cooperation, and for Romania by Angelo Miculescu, Romanian deputy prime minister and minister of agriculture and food industry.

The Romanian Government has agreed to extend the economic and technical cooperation agreement concluded between the two countries until the end of December in order to finance the projects in which Romania is participating. A long-term economic and technical cooperation agreement was signed between the two countries for 5 years, which is automatically renewable for 1 year.

PRESS STATEMENT ISSUED ON IRANIAN MINISTER'S VISIT

JN021410Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1255 GMT 2 Mar 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 2 March--Iraq and Iran have asserted their resolution and determination to continue to fully implement the Algiers accord and the Teheran protocol pertaining to the relations between the two countries.

This came in a press statement issued this evening on the 5-day visit of Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Ali Khalatbari to Iraq.

The two sides stressed the need to exert efforts to consolidate and develop the relations of friendship between the two countries based on mutual respect and the common interests of the people of the two countries. The two sides declared that the joint Iraqi-Iranian ministerial committee will hold its next meeting in Teheran within less than a year.

The press statement points out that the meetings of the second session of the joint Iraqi-Iranian ministerial committee were held in an atmosphere of friendship and amity. The Iraqi side was headed by Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and Interior Minister 'Izzat Ibrahim and included RCC member and Trade Minister Hasan 'Ali and high-ranking officials.

During these meetings, the two sides signed the minutes pertaining to the work of the joint committee and the agreement on the organization of the committee's work.

The heads of the Iraqi and Iranian delegations exchanged the instruments of ratification of the agreement for cooperation between the Iraqi and Iranian ministries of interior, for cooperation in tourism and for cooperation in the field of agriculture and fisheries.

The statement points out that the talks between 'Izzat Ibrahim and Abbas Ali Khalatbari were held in an atmosphere of friendship, confidence and understanding. The statement adds that the two ministers reviewed bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest. They expressed their satisfaction at the serious steps the two sides had taken out of their concern for the religious, historical and neighborly relations between them and out of concern for deepening them in various fields in service to the mutual interests of the peoples of the two friendly neighboring countries.

Khalatbari met with President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr and conveyed to him the greetings of His Imperial Majesty Shahanshah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. He also met with RCC Vice Chairman Saddam Husayn and conveyed to him the greetings of Iranian Prime Minister Jamshid Amuzegar. The Iranian foreign minister also had talks with Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi on the good relations between the two countries and on issues of mutual interest.

Visit Concludes

JN021246Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1235 GMT 2 Mar 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 2 March--Iranian Foreign Minister and head of the Iranian side to the joint Iraqi-Iranian ministerial committee Abbas Ali Khalatbari left Baghdad for home this afternoon following a 5-day visit to Iraq. He was seen off at the airport by RCC member, Interior Minister and head of the Iraqi side to the committee 'Izzat Ibrahim and RCC member and Trade Minister Hasan 'Ali.

In a statement to INA, Khalatbari said that he has discussed with Iraqi officials relations between the two countries and the means to consolidate them. He praised the development in Iraq in various fields, particularly the construction and economic fields. He asserted that the two sides will exert efforts to achieve further positive development in relations between the two countries.

ROMANIAN DEPUTY MINISTER ARRIVES FOR OFFICIAL VISIT

JN271515Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1350 GMT 27 Feb 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 27 February--Gheorghe Lazar, the Romanian deputy minister of forestry and construction materials, today arrived in Baghdad at the head of a delegation for a 3-day official visit to Iraq.

Lazar has stated that he will hold talks with officials at the Trade Ministry to prepare for a meeting of the Iraqi-Romanian joint ministerial committee in Baghdad in May.

Holds Talks

JN021407Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1405 GMT 2 Mar 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 2 March--Romanian Deputy Minister of Forestry and Construction Materials Gheorghe Lazar today held more talks with Iraqi officials.

The Romanian deputy minister today met with Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister. During the meeting they discussed economic and commercial cooperation between Iraq and Romania and economic activities.

The Romanian official also met with Latif Nusayyif Jasim, agriculture and agrarian reform minister. During the meeting they discussed agricultural cooperation, particularly agricultural mechanization, forestry and development in fisheries.

INDIAN AIR FORCE COMMANDER CONCLUDES VISIT

JN020937Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0910 GMT 2 Mar 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 2 March--Indian Air Force Commander General Moolgavkar and his delegation left Baghdad for home at the end of a 5-day visit to Iraq. He was seen off at the airport by the air force commander, senior air force officers and the Indian ambassador in Baghdad.

GDR NATIONAL FRONT DELEGATION LEAVES BAGHDAD

JN011058Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1033 GMT 1 Mar 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 1 March--A delegation of the National Council of the GDR National Front led by Hasso Zimmermann, member of the National Front's Secretariat, left Baghdad today after a 5-day visit to Iraq.

Zimmermann stated that during the visit the members of the delegation met with officials of the Secretariat of the Progressive National and Nationalist Front, and with leaders of the mass organizations. During the meetings viewpoints were exchanged on issues of mutual interest to our peoples and organizations and on their joint and firm stands in the struggle against imperialism. He added that the visit helped strengthen the existing relations of friendship and cooperation between the two friendly countries.

AR-RA'Y ON RESUMPTION OF JORDANIAN-PALESTINIAN DIALOG

JN0207200Y Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 2 Mar 78 p 1 JN

[Text] Amman--AR-RA'Y has learned that the Jodranian-Palestinian dialog will be resumed in Amman soon--perhaps late next week. It is expected that a PLO delegation, including head of the PLO Political Department Faruq Qaddumi and head of the PLO Military Department Zuhayr Muhsin, will arrive in Amman.

It is understood that the dialog will center mainly on discussing the current Arab situation and the developments in the situation in the area. In his interview with the Kuwaiti newspaper AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM a few days ago, Prime Minister Mudar Badran said that Jordanian-Palestinian contacts are continuing.

AD-DUSTUR SUMMARIZES REPORTS ON POSSIBLE PLO VISITORS

JN0310140Y Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 3 Mar 78 pp 1, 12 JN

[Text] AFP yesterday carried for the second day running a news item on the possibility of a visit to Jordan by Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, to resume the Jordanian-Palestinian dialog. The day before yesterday the agency quoted the pro-Libyan Lebanese newspaper AL-KIFAH AL-'ARABI as saying that Qaddumi may visit Amman after the visit of the PLO Executive Committee Chairman [Yasir 'Arafat] to Moscow on 6 March at the head of a Palestinian delegation, which will include Qaddumi. Yesterday the agency continued covering the story by quoting a source close to the PLO office in Amman as saying that Qaddumi's visit to Amman "is a possibility not ruled out." The source added that there is also a possibility of other Palestinian leaders coming to Jordan to achieve rapprochement between Jordan and the PLO.

AFP stated that observers here point out the surprise visit Algerian Ambassador in Beirut Mohamed Yazid paid to Amman last Saturday, during which he conveyed a message to His Majesty King Husayn from President Houari Boumediene. In the meantime, the Palestinian news agency reported 'Arafat received the Algerian Ambassador in Beirut Mohamed Yazid yesterday, without mentioning what was discussed during the meeting. It is believed to have dealt with the results of the surprise visit by the Algerian ambassador to Amman.

It will be recalled that Crown Prince Hasan and several Palestinian personalities, including Bahjat Abu Gharbiyah and Mayor of [Arab] Jerusalem Ruhi al-Khatib, met with the Algerian ambassador during his visit to Jordan. The Algerian ambassador is expected to return to Amman Monday to complete his talks with the Jordanian authorities.

AUSTRIAN PRESIDENT TO ARRIVE SUNDAY FOR TALKS

JN0311060Y Amman AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 3 Mar 78 p 1 JN

[Text] AL-AKHBAR--Rudolf Kirchschlaeger, president of the Republic of Austria, will arrive in Amman on Sunday at the invitation of His Majesty King Husayn. Kirchschlaeger, whose country has good relations with Jordan, will hold talks during the visit with His Majesty King Husayn dealing with issues of mutual interest to Austria and Jordan, and the latest developments in the Middle East conflict.

FOREIGN MINISTER BUTRUS ANSWERS NEWSMEN'S QUESTIONS

NC021825Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 2 Mar 78 NC

[Excerpts] Answering newsmen's questions on the course which the government will follow on the extension of the mandate of the Arab deterrent forces, Minister of Foreign and Expatriates Affairs and Defense Fu'ad Butrus said: We shall take a specific course. When we embark on this course, we shall tell you about it.

On the subject of detente, Minister Butrus said: The subject of detente is important and delicate. We must expedite its achievement as soon as possible. It is necessary to take into consideration all the views that are presented in order to get a comprehensive idea so as to reach constructive results which will be presented to the people.

On a Lebanese-Syrian summit meeting, Minister Butrus said: There are many matters which require constant contacts between Lebanon and Syria for many reasons. I do not see that there is anything at present which makes a summit meeting imperative. A summit meeting may be held if there is a reason for holding it or if an exchange of points of view on a high level will be beneficial. At present no such matters have presented themselves.

INA: JOINT FORCES RECAPTURE S. LEBANESE VILLAGE

JN021654Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1640 GMT 2 Mar 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 2 March--The joint forces in southern Lebanon have regained the border village Marun ar-Ra's, which was occupied by Israeli and rightist forces this morning. The joint forces captured two Israeli vehicles and three members of the rightist forces.

The INA correspondent in the south has reported that the joint forces launched a counter-offensive to liberate the village at midday. These forces waged a 2-hour battle, forcing the enemy to retreat into the occupied territory and rightist positions. The INA correspondent further says that the joint forces in the south invited journalists to visit the liberated village and to see the captured Israeli vehicles and rightist forces members.

EXPLOSIVE EXPERTS DEFUSE BOMB IN AL-HAMRA, BEIRUT

JN030908Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0840 GMT 3 Mar 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 3 March--Explosive experts this morning defused a bomb planted in a crowded street in the commercial area of Al-Hamra in the Lebanese capital. Recently Beirut was the scene of a series of explsions which led to a number of casualties. A mamber of the rightwing National Liberal Party had been arrested in connection with these incidents.

EXPLOSION IN BEIRUT CAUSES MATERIAL DAMAGE

NC020720Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 2 Mar 78 NC

[Excerpt] An explosive charge went off last night in (Tarshuh) area destroying the Byblos Confectionery and some cars and causing slight damage to the nearby buildings.

SED'S VERNER DESCRIBES TALKS WITH OFFICIALS

LD022233Y East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1950 GMT 2 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Damascus--A GDR delegation led by Paul Verner, Politburo member and SED Central Committee secretary, tonight ended its visit to Syria. During its 4-day stay, the delegation had a number of meetings including one with the secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and President of Syria Hafiz as-Asad and other leading representatives of the Ba'th Party. An agreement on cooperation during the years 1978-79 between the two parties was signed. A joint communique on the visit will be published tomorrow.

Before his departure Paul Verner described the talks in Damascus as very cordial and successful. They had provided an opportunity for an extensive exchange of views on fundamental issues of the joint anti-imperialist struggle as well as on the state and prospects of the relations between the two parties, states and peoples. They had revealed a sincere desire for a further consolidation of the existing close relations.

PRESS COMMENTS ON MIDEAST TALKS, LEBANESE SITUATION

LN030755Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 3 Mar 78 J.

[Press review]

[Text] The newspaper ATH-THAWRAH today publishes a commentary entitled: "Syrian Moves and the Consideration of the Current Situation." The newspaper says: The political and diplomatic moves which Syria has been undertaking for the past few days stem from basic national considerations. The moves express the need for more contacts and consultations with the Arab countries to inform them of the latest developments of the situation in the Middle East from all aspects and, consequently, to place before these countries their responsibilities, which have now become crystal clear.

President al-Asad, who is accustomed to keeping everyone informed of Syria's position on this or that event, does not hesitate for a single moment to pursue this method firmly. This is because of strong awareness that the Zionist danger is a threat not only to Syria but also to the whole Arab nation.

The new Syrian moves in the Arab world are part of comprehensive action to contain As-Sadat's capitulatory initiative and to protect the Arab world from being affected by the political fog which might result from such suspicious action. The important thing here is to concentrate on the considerations of positive Arab action and to use this action in the interest of the Arab nation's objectives; mainly, the liberation of the occupied territories and the restoration of the usurped rights. If past and present events and facts in the Middle East have proved that the Arab nation's main task is to back Syria's steadfastness and to strengthen Syrian ability to fight and resist, this fact is made even more clear and real, now that matters have reached a serious point of deterioration and collapse.

Syria has taken action in all directions to restore the situation to its correct framework so as to prevent the imperialist and Zionist forces from imposing their hegemony on the whole Arab world. Syria, which has already covered much ground in this respect, will definitely and persistently forge ahead along this solid path.

It will continue fighting, resisting and rejecting all capitulatory solutions until the Arab nation triumphs over its enemies, achieves its just national aims and possesses the intrinsic power to build its own future.

In a commentary entitled "Lebanese Facts, Between Possibilities and Results," the newspaper AL-BA'TH says: Both Syria and Lebanon have overcome the difficult period, responding to the common wish of the leaders and the public. Therefore, it is no longer acceptable for certain political sides to resort to old ways and methods to obtain gains which have been obviated by events and circumstances and are no longer permissibile in the new situation. It has become Lebanon's destiny to play a direct role in confronting the devious imperialist-Zionist game. Whoever understands this duty must continue to exercise and develop it, and whoever cannot do that places himself outside any position of influence and possibly on the opposite side. We would like to remind him again that in such a case he will be placing himself in a grave situation, whether or not he realizes the results of taking such a position.

There is no doubt that the logical and rational position taken by the Lebanese nationalist forces in particular, and the Arab forces in general, and also by all the forces which want a role in determining the pattern of life in this area, must conform to the national and pan-Arab stand. Anyone who adopts a contrary stand or a neutral stand--and both lead to the same result--will be in a difficult position. Even now there is still the opportunity to make a decision. But the opportunity will not last for a long time.

Writing in its "Behind the Events" column under the headline "Damascus Affairs Are Decided by Damascus Alone," the newspaper TISHRIN says: Syria's position on the alleged U.S. peace process in the Middle East is well known. It was stated precisely and clearly by President Hafiz al-Asad when he said: We have decided to resist and foil the plot. What President al-Asad says definitely expresses Syria's principled and firm policy. When the president says that our policy is to resist and foil the plot, then this is the policy which Syria is pursuing both in public and behind closed doors. As the world knows, Syria, under Al-Asad, does not speak two languages or pursue two policies. What Syria says behind closed doors is what it is saying in public. If the minutes of all the talks which Syria has had with countries holding different stands were to be published, we would find that during all these talks Syria followed one stable principled line.

OFFICIAL NOTES SIGNIFICANCE OF SYRIAN-PLO COOPERATION

JN0307l0Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 3 Mar 78 JN

[Text] Damascus--Dr Husam al-Khatib, the assistant secretary general of the Arab Parliamentary Union, has asserted that the efforts which Syria is exerting with the cooperation of the PLO are sufficient to set the Arab struggle on strong foundations. Both Syria and the PLO are aware of the danger of Zionist designs, he said. Speaking on the occasion of the organization of Palestinian cultural events, Dr al-Khatib said: Israel's opposition to peace is not something new in Israeli policy. It is an indivisible part of Israel's nature, its Zionist ideology and American connections. This means that the Zionist danger is recurrent.

Speaking about As-Sadat's treasonous visit to occupied Jerusalem, Dr al-Khatib stressed that this visit has strengthened Israel's hold on the occupied territory and its bid to dominate the area politically, economically and militarily.

Dr al-Khatib concluded by affirming the significance of the struggle position adopted by Syria under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad, who, he said, insists on Arab rights, especially the right of sovereignty over their territory, and on Palestinian national rights, especially the right to determine their destiny on their own land.

AL-BA'TH HITS EGYPTIAN MOVES AGAINST PALESTINIANS

JN011036Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 1 Mar 78 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] On the position of the Egyptian regime toward the Palestinian Arab people and the arbitrary measures adopted by As-Sadat against Palestinians living in Egypt, AL-BA'TH publishes an editorial entitled "What Is the Arabs' Position Toward the As-Sadat Campaign Against the Palestinian People?" The paper asks: What is meant by the campaign of hatred launched by the As-Sadat authorities against the Palestinian Arab people and their leaders? Does not all this serve Israel and reinforce its theory that the people of Palestine are without a country? The campaign was underway before the As-Siba'i assassination, but not in the manner we are witnessing now. The As-Sadat regime, which not only disavowed the Arab nation but also the Egyptian people, is now trying to exploit every opportunity, however small, which the As-Sadat regime considers capable of helping it remove itself further from the Arab arena. We all recall the information campaign launched immediately following As-Sadat's visit to Israel against the Arab oil-producing countries, whose support is necessary for the As-Sadat regime to remain in power. This means that what As-Sadat is carrying out is part of a hostile conspiracy which he helped formulate and which he has promised to implement.

The paper continues: What Mamduh Salim, As-Sadat's prime minister, said the day before yesterday is considered more dangerous than As-Sadat's visit to Israel, despite the fact that this was an inevitable result of the visit. What Mamduh Salim and the As-Sadat media have said simultaneously raises questions and is cause for wonder. The target here is not the As-Sadat regime [as heard], but the Arab regimes which still hope to reform the As-Sadat regime and make it become an influential Arab power.

The Arab citizens as well as people everywhere, are asking questions. We can understand that some may not want to depict As-Sadat's visit to Israel as a failure. However, we believe that there is no justification or excuse for not adopting a unified Arab position toward As-Sadat and his regime before matters reach the point where it will be difficult to go back to the beginning. Without boasting or being conceited, we must say that Syria has stated that Egypt's ruler is involved and totally immersed in a hostile conspiracy. Any attempt to reform him will be completely futile. The only positive action rests in saving the people and army of Egypt, because As-Sadat will continue to implement what he has been charged with in our Arab homeland and in Africa. We must realize that As-Sadat is ready to sacrifice the oldest sons of Egypt to complete the conspiracy. Thus, the Cyprus incident is not something unusual for the As-Sadat regime because following it he was capable of creating a special situation toward Palestine and its people.

The paper concludes: No one knows what As-Sadat's next step will be in completing the remaining part of the conspiracy. If our nation really wants a dignified life, it has to take the necessary deterrent measures not only for the sake of Palestine and its people, but also for the sake of those who still view what is happening as being of no concern to them.

ALGERIA

BOUMEDIENE EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR SAO TOME

LD2115147 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Feb 78 LD

[Text] President Houari Boumediene, president of the republic and chairman of the Council of the Revolution, has sent a cable to President Da Costa of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe. Here is the text of the cable:

After Guinea, Angola and Benin, we are today seeing imperialism trying to attack the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome e Principe. The movements of unidentified ships along the shores of your country and the violation of the airspace of this country confirm the premediated nature of these threats against your national independence and territorial integrity. These threats and maneuvers of intimidation fall within the framework of a wide scheme aimed at shaking the progressive regimes in Africa, at bringing back the imperialist invasion of the continent and at restoring the spheres of influence and its interests.

In order to attain these aims, imperialism does not hesitate to have recourse to mercenaries, the use of which is unanimously condemned by the international community, when it does not intervene directly under the false cover of cooperation agreements. The people of Sao Tome e Principe and their party, who have always proved to be vigilant and showed profound attachment to the sublime ideals of freedom and dignity, will be able to foil all these attempts aimed at the reinvasion of Africa by colonialism.

In the face of these actions which harm the sovereignty of your country and its independence and security, I would like to express to you, in the name of the Algerian people and their FLN Party, and in the name of their government, our firm solidarity and determination to remain on your side, to strongly condemn the threats and armed attacks to which the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome e Principe may be subjected.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI, SOMALIA'S SIAD BARRE CONTINUE TALKS

LD0213207 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 2 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great 1 September revolution and Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre, held a closed session at noon today in resumption of the official talks between the two countries.

Siad Barre Departs

LD0223507 Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 2 Mar 78 LD

[Excerpt] President Mohamed Siad Barre left the Tripoli International Airport at 2330 yesterday [Thursday] at the end of a 2-day official visit to Libya. He was seen off by Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud, Lt Col Mustafa al-Kharrubi and the brother secretaries and members of the political corps.

President Siad Barre sent a cable to Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on leaving Tripoli. The cable reads: Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, secretary general of the People's General Congress in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, as I leave the fraternal homeland, Libya, I have the pleasure of expressing to your excellency and to the Libyan Arab people my utmost gratitude and thanks for the great welcome I had during my stay among you. I wish you success in your work and glory, sovereignty and prosperity for the fraternal Libyan people.

JANA POLITICAL EDITOR COMMENTS ON SABHA SUMMIT

LD261820Y Tripoli JANA in English 1420 GMT 26 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, February 26, JANA--The summit of four African countries in Sabha has proved to the world once again that Africans can solve their problems themselves, through positive dialogue, without any foreign intervention.

The political editor of the JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY in a commentary on the summit communique said the leaders of the Jamahiryah, Chad, Sudan and Niger not only exerted their efforts to reach an agreement but they considered it necessary to commit themselves to implement the agreement to close the door in the face of all challengers and to prevent intervention from any source, except the four signatory countries.

The political editor said the mere holding of the Sabha summit was a triumph for the African will against the colonialist enemies of Africa and against the treacherous hireling agents, who exerted every possible effort to frustrate the summit and prevent it from achieving positive results for solving the problem of our brothers in Chad, halting blood shed and providing a convenient atmosphere to build and reconstruct the African brotherly region, on the basis of national unity and co-operation with African brothers and neighbors.

The editor referred to the Sabha summit decision to fix next March 21 as the date for holding a meeting in Sabha between representatives of the Chadian Government and various detachments of the Chadian Liberation Movement [FORLINAT], in support of efforts to realize national reconciliation in the brotherly Republic of Chad.

It has also been agreed to set up a Libyan-Niger military committee to remain in touch with the circumstances of conflicting parties in Chad until national reconciliation is achieved. Regarding bilateral relations between the Jamahiriyah and Chad, the Chadian Government has decided to normalize diplomatic relations. The text and the spirit of the summit communique clearly indicate that Africa is determined to maintain its sovereignty and dignity and act for the realization of its unity, at any cost and sacrifice. It asserts that the African will, when united and concentrated towards finding solutions, will tolerate nothing obstructing its path and aspirations.

The solution of the Chadian problem shall be the first step of the unified African action, which will be an example for solving all the continent's problems and for reinforcing unified African action for the progress of the continent and the happiness of the African man. Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the revolution, clearly expressed this fact when he asserted that African countries are trying to solve the problem of Chad and they will be able to solve all other African problems, whether in Zimbabwe, Namibia, Western Sahara or in any other part of the African Continent.

Will the colonialist powers, which have been living on looting the wealth of Africa, respect the African will embodied and expressed by the conference? Will these powers acknowledge that Africa is for Africans, including its land, wealth, thought and leadership and that African problems could only be solved by Africans themselves? Or have these colonialist forces deemed convenient to intervene in the continent's affairs, to plunder its wealth, to violate its sovereignty and spread sedition among its people and countries?

If the imperialist forces and the foreign countries in general have absorbed the meaning and recognized the Africans' right to self-determination, running their own affairs and solving their problems through dialog, then a bright future is expected for cooperation between the black Continent and all world countries, to the interest of world peace, security and prosperity. But if the colonialists continue their obstinacy and their aggressive acts against Africa, which expelled colonialism despite the great differences in material and military potentials, then the African people will be able to give the enemies further lessons and smash the colonialist intentions of aggression, plunder and exploitation, through the strength of African unity, African brotherhood and African will. Those who are in doubt of this should try it and they will be sure that the oppressor will be defeated.

AL-QADHDHAFI RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM SYRIA'S AL-ASAD

JN022137Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 2 Mar 78 JN

[Excerpt] Tripoli--Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, secretary general of the General People's Congress in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriayh, this evening received 'Abd al-Karim 'Adi, minister of state for foreign affairs, who handed him a message from President Hafiz al-Asad concerning his latest visit to the Soviet Union. Colonel al-Qadhdhafi handed 'Adi a message to President Hafiz al-Asad. The meeting was attended by 'Ali Hasan, head of the Syrian Relations Office in Tripoli. 'Adi will leave Tripoli tomorrow to deliver a similar message to the Algerian president from President Hafiz al-Asad.

AL-QADHDHAFI HOLDS TALKS WITH KENYA'S FOREIGN MINISTER

LD232055Y Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 23 Feb 78 LD/EA

[Text] The Libyan leader, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, has spelled out his stand on Somalia's aggression against Kenya and Ethiopia and said Libya does not support any country which tries to acquire territory from other states by the use of force. Colonel al-Qadhdhafi was receiving in Tripoli Kenya's minister for foreign affairs, Dr Waiyaki, who is in the Libya capital for an OAU ministerial meeting.

The Libyan leader hailed Kenya and Uganda for their move to strengthen relations between them. He said there was no need for Kenya and Uganda to quarrel as they were sister-states. He promised to do everything possible to strengthen further the improving Kenya-Uganda relations. Colonel al-Qadhdhafi instructed his ministers to grant scholarships to Kenyans to study different courses in Libyan institutions.

On aviation, the Libyan head of state revealed that Kenya Airways could start operating flights through Benghazi and Tripoli airports with immediate effect. He proposed Kenya and Libya to establish a joint shipping line to facilitate the development of commerce between the two sister African states.

The Libyan leader handed Dr Waiyaki a message to President Kenyatta. He wished Mzee Kenyatta good health and long life. Dr Waiyaki was among the less than 10 OAU ministers invited to a special luncheon by the Libyan chief of state.

ENVOY DELIVERS GISCARD MESSAGE TO AL-QADHDHAFI

LD221440Y Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi today received Francois Poncet, secretary general of the French presidency, who arrived in Triplli yesterday and conveyed to the brother colonel a message from French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing.

Present at this meeting were: Taha ash-Sharif Bin 'Amir, liaison secretary; and on the French side it was attended by the director of the African Department at the French Foreign Ministry and by France's ambassador to Al-Jamahiriyah.

FOREIGN SECRETARY RECEIVES OAU SECRETARY GENERAL

LD021440Y Tripoli JANA in English 0900 GMT 2 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, March 2, JANA--Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, the Jamahiriyah foreign secretary, met yesterday William Eteki, the OAU secretary general. The meeting, which was attended by the acting foreign undersecretary and the Ethiopian ambassador to the Jamahiriyah, discussed ways and means to implement the resolutions of the OAU conference of African foreign ministers, as well as the current situation in Africa and issues of concern to the OAU. Dr at-Turayki also received yesterday the head of the Senegal delegation to the OAU foreign ministers conference, with whom he discussed promotion of cooperation between the two countries and African problems.

AT-TURAYKI RECEIVES VISITING FOREIGN MINISTERS

From Tunisia, Ethiopia, Djibouti

LD241710Y Tripoli JANA in English 1410 GMT 24 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, February 24, JANA--Dr at-Turayki, the Jamahiriyah foreign secretary, received here yesterday Muhammad al-Fayturi, the Tunisian foreign minister. The meeting was attended by the Tunisian minister of state for foreign affairs, the Jamahiriyah's ambassador to Tunis and the Tunisian ambassador to Jamahiriyah. Means and ways of promoting mutual cooperation were discussed during the meeting. Dr at-Turayki also received Flax Coogee, the Ethiopoan foreign minister; [name and title as received] who was heading his country's delegation to the foreign ministers' conference. Both sides discussed areas of mutual interest and the recent developments in Africa. Dr at-Turayki also received Abdallah Mohamed Kamil, the foreign minister of Djibouti.

Receives Principe's Minister

LD271814Y Tripoli JANA in English 1447 GMT 27 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, February 27, JANA--The Foreign Secretary Dr 'Ali at-Turayki received last night the acting foreign minister of Principe heading her country's delegation to the 30th session of the OAU foreign ministers conference. During their meeting they discussed various aspects of cooperation between the two countries.

MAURITANIA

OFFICIAL SAYS CANARIES 'INTEGRAL PART' OF SPAIN

LD212144Y Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 1900 GMT 21 Feb 78 LD

[Text] The EFE NEWS AGENCY, in a dispatch datelined Tripoli, reports that Mauritanian Foreign Minister Hamdi Ould Mouknass today said that Mauritania considers the Canary Islands to be an integral part of the Spanish national territory. Mouknass also denied the supposed unanimity said to surround the resolution adopted at the end of last week by the OAU Liberation Committee regarding the Canary Islands. The foreign minister told EFE that the Mauritanian delegation had expressed reservations at the time about considering the Canary Islands a colonial territory and about the MPAIAC, the Movement for the Self-Determination and Independence of the Canary Archipelago.

The Mauritanian foreign minister said his country's delegation will express these reservations in writing to the OAU council of foreign ministers. Mauritania considers the Canary Islands to be an integral part of Spanish national territory, Mouknass told EFE, adding that his country would not give the MPAIAC any support whatsoever.

MOROCCO

PREMIER INTERVIEWED ON MOSCOW VISIT, SAHARA

AU021154Y Rome ANSA in Italian 0830 GMT 2 Mar 78 AU

[Excerpts] Rabat, 2 March--"Morocco is very pleased with its cooperation with Italy and, precisely because we are aware of your country's internal difficulties, we pay tribute to Italian technology and to Italian economic representatives who frequently overcome all competition," declared Ahmed Osman, the head of the Royal Moroccan Government, in an exclusive interview granted to ANSA.

The Moroccan premier is preparing for a visit to Moscow to sign what the French press has termed, not without a sign of irritation, "the contract of the century." Asked about it, he stated: It is in fact an economic agreement for a period of 30 years envisaging Soviet investments of very considerable importance, which will exceed all those made by the USSR on the African Continent to date.

In addition to strengthening bilateral Russian-Moroccan cooperation, this contract implies also a new political discourse. It is obvious that Moscow, although defending the Algerian thesis on the self-determination of the population of the Moroccan and Mauritanian Sahara, deals with and is ready to collaborate with Morocco as it is in its present frontiers. It is necessary to explain ourselves on this issue of self-determination, which is used too demagogically. We Moroccans have always been on the side of the peoples who have been and are fighting for their independence. Morocco was among the countries which drafted UN Resolution 1514 in defense of the right of self-determination, but also of territorial integrity. The second part is frequently forgotten and one is witnessing increasingly an irration and emotional application of the first. In fact, one is losing sight of true self-determination of peoples, which is now being replaced by subversive actions displacing states and nations."

Discussing the emergency OAU summit on the West Sahara, which was to meet in Libreville toward the end of March, the head of the government stated: "Even if the summit is not held, as it appears, Morocco remains available, as in the past, for a direct and loyal dialog with Algeria. We believe that a war between our two fraternal countries would be disastrous to both. Regardless of the outcome, Algeria must convince itself that the situation in our [part of the] Sahara is irreversible and that neither Morocco nor Mauritania can turn back. To impose an Algerian solution in the Sahara, it would be necessary to go over the bodies of 18 million Moroccans who are prepared to give their lives to defend it."

SUDAN

NUMAYRI DISCUSSES MEDIATING IN HORN OF AFRICA

NC202100Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2010 GMT 20 Feb 78 NC

[Text] Khartoum, 20 February--Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri has stated that he sent a message to Col Haile Mariam Mengistu, the chairman of the military council [title as received] in Ethiopia, offering Sudan's mediation to put an end to the bloody conflict between Somalia and Ethiopia. President Numayri explained that although Sudan has not yet received a reply, it will remain faithful to its role, principles and national and regional commitment, and will seek to make objective dialog and not bloody conflict the appropriate means for solving all issues among the brothers.

In his monthly public meeting on Sudanese radio and television tonight, the Sudanese president again warned against foreign interference in the African Continent and against any alliance with this interference, saying that the big powers conclude alliances only to serve their interests. He pointed out that what Somalia is experiencing now is the best example of the true intentions of the friendship of the Soviet Union with what it calls the powerless peoples.

In his talk, President Ja'far Numayri pointed out that the Ethiopian-Somali tension existed before the Soviet presence in Africa but that all the brothers would have been able to narrow the differences if it were not for the Soviet infiltration in the area which foiled all sincere efforts to narrow the differences. The Sudanese president referred in this regard to the mediation committee which he headed at the request of the OAU. He said: We were about to achieve agreement between the two fraternal countries, but Soviet infiltration in the area aborted all efforts. This presence served as a factor for instigating Ethiopia against Somalia.

The Sudanese president emphasized that by its presence in the Horn of Africa, the Soviet Union only aims at establishing itself and achieving its ambitions in the area. He added: The Soviet Union has regrettably succeeded in doing this. The price has been high: the blood of the Somalis and Ethiopians and instability in the area.

President Ja'far Numayri said that even if the Soviet Union succeeds in remaining and settling in the area of the Horn of Africa there will be no unity for a long time because there are other forces which in turn are preparing to intervene. Then what we have warned against several times will come true--that is, this part of Africa, in view of its position affecting the Arab area, will turn into an arena of international strife.

The Sudanese president asked the Soviet Union and its allies and satellites to take their hands off Africa. He said that the sons of Africa can solve their problems and iron out their differences through a constructive dialog, which cannot be achieved while Soviet arms are rattling and under the heavy footsteps of the Soviet and Cuban advisers, experts and combatants. President Numayri urged the entire human community to collaborate in order to restore peace in the African Continent and to liberate it from the aliens who covet it.

BRIEFS

TAP DELEGATION'S VISITS--TAP--A Tunisian delegation led by Mr Mimoun Chatty, deputy director of the TAP agency, recently paid a visit to Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Kuwait. The visit was within the framework of a program aimed at consolidating cooperation between TAP and the press agencies of the gulf countries. In Saudi Arabia the delegation had talks with Mr 'Abdullah Hlaiel, director of the Saudi information agency. During their talks the main lines of a program of cooperation in the field of information were decided, and the possibility of setting up joint offices abroad as well as telex connection between the two agencies were discussed. In the UAE the delegation had talks with Mr 'Abdullah Nouis, deputy minister of information and culture. Along with Mr Ibrahim al-Abed, director general of the national press agency, they signed an agreement on the exchange of services, information and photography. In Kuwait it was decided that the Kuwaiti agency would receive TAP in Arabic for the Middle East. The two agencies agreed to insure joint coverage of visits paid by the leaders of the two countries. The delegation had talks with Mr Barjes Hammoud El Barjes and Mr Ahmed Dachti, respectively president and general director of the Kuwaiti information agency, and his deputy. [Tunis TAP in French 1500 GMT 28 Feb 78 LD]

IPS-TAP AGREEMENT--Tunis, 1 March TAP--The heads of INTER PRESS SERVICE [IPS] and TUNIS AFRIQUE PRESSE [TAP] signed a cooperation agreement in Tunis today. Its aim is to strengthen the already existing cooperation between the two agencies. Two years ago IPS opened an Arab-language office in Tunis and it distributes TAP's service in Spanish to Latin America and in English to several European and African countries. The new arrangement envisages distribution by TAP of an hour-long newscast for Venezuelan embassies in Tunis, Cairo, Jidda and Kuwait; for its part IPS will distribute a special newscast for Tunisian embassies in Geneva, London, Vienna, Teheran, the Hague, Rome, Stockholm, Belgrade, New York, Washington and Beirut. IPS has offered TAP correspondents in London, Geneva, Belgrade, Beirut, Dar es Salaam, Lima and New York (the United Nations) the possibility of using its offices and telecommunications network. The two agencies will continue to collaborate in studying initiatives in the field of training cadres and to work with other agencies for the establishment of a new international news order. [Tunis TAP in French 1300 GMT 1 Mar 78 LD]

SUDANESE OFFICIAL APPOINTED--President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri today issued a decree appointing Mr Joseph Lagu president of the High Executive Council for the southern region, after taking cognizance of the recommendation of the regional People's Assembly at its session convened on 28 February. [Text] [Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 1 Mar 78 LD/EA]

HA'AREZ REPORTS ON CONTENTS OF AS-SADAT LETTER TO BEGIN

TA030844Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 3 Mar 78 p 1 TA

[By 'Uzzi Benziman]

[Text] In the letter sent by President as-Sadat to Prime Minister Menahem Begin, As-Sadat expresses the desire to continue to conduct the negotiations between the two countries in order to make peace.

The letter, which was written in English, was submitted to the prime minister yesterday by U.S. roving Ambassador Alfred Atherton who had returned from Cairo. It does not include a concrete proposal for a new framework in which to continue the dialog between the two countries nor does it contain an invitation. However, it does contain a review of the development of the negotiations between Egypt and Israel up to this point.

As-Sadat points out a number of events which, in his opinion, caused difficulties in the negotiations and caused relations with Mr Begin to break down. Among other things he points out a number of his remarks.

At the same time, the main emphasis in the message is on the Egyptian president's commitment to the peace process and his desire to achieve peace.

At his meeting with As-Sadat the day before yesterday, Mr Atherton felt a more positive tone than in the past. In a report that Atherton gave separately to the prime minister and to the foreign minister and later to a ministerial team that included Yadin and Weizman he expressed the hope that Egypt is seeking peace and that it is sincere in its efforts to reach an agreement with Israel. In his opinion, Egypt's emphasis on its desire to continue the negotiations is a good sign.

At the same time, the HA'AREZ correspondent points out that Atherton did not bring an Egyptian reply pointing to Cairo's willingness to compromise on the declaration of principles being discussed. Atherton did not bring a written draft from Egypt but only verbal comments reacting to Israel's proposals submitted the day before yesterday (in reaction to the Egyptian proposal for a declaration of principles). At his meeting with the Israeli ministerial team it was made clear to Atherton that the government insists on its formula and that it wants Egypt to show willingness to make some sort of compromise.

Atherton told the prime minister that President Carter is up to date on the details of the negotiations and on the contents of the formulas being passed between Egypt and Israel.

Yesterday afternoon Atherton met with the legal adviser to the government, Aharon Baraq. They apparently discussed the Israeli interpretation of UN Security Council Resolution 242. The government claims that the clause on withdrawal should not be applied to the West Bank because this territory was not under recognized Jordanian sovereignty and because a country is entitled to maintain possession of territories conquered as a result of a defensive war. Mr Atherton will return to Jerusalem from Amman and Riyadh next Tuesday. He will then return to Cairo and will take with him the prime minister's answer to As-Sadat's letter.

Yesterday government sources assessed that the importance of As-Sadat's message lies in the renewal of the personal contact between him and Begin. One source expressed the hope that if these ties develop As-Sadat and Begin might resume their meetings.

JERUSALEM EXPECTS LITTLE FROM ATHERTON'S SHUTTLE TRIPS

TA030641Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 3 Mar 78 TA

[Text] Roving U.S. Ambassador Alfred Atherton leaves for Amman this morning. Our political correspondent Shalom Qital says that it is assumed in Israel that there are no chances that Jordan will now join the negotiations.

Next week Atherton will again leave for Cairo carrying the prime minister's reply to President as-Sadat. In this connection our correspondent says that the chances [for progress] are not yet good. The gap between the parties on the basic issues has not decreased. Jerusalem expects that the declaration of principles for the negotiations between Israel and Egypt will not be achieved before Begin's trip to the United States 10 days from now.

SHARON, WEIZMAN AGREE TO SHELVE SETTLEMENT DISCORD

TA021240Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 2 Mar 78 TA

[Text] The prime minister conferred with Ministers Sharon and Weizman this morning, and our correspondent reports that the two ministers decided to shelve for the time being, their disagreement regarding the interpretation of the government's policy on the settlements issue. The defense minister yesterday forbade a nucleus of settlers to settle in Qadesh Barne'a and the agriculture minister expressed his surprise at this action.

LABOR PARTY REACTS TO QADESH BARNE'A SETTLEMENT DISPUTE

TA021326Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 2 Mar 78 TA

[Text] The Labor Party says that the discord over the issue of settling in Qadesh Barne'a is yet another expression of the existing divisions within the government and of its disintegration. An announcement by the Labor Party reaction team also says that the discord between the senior ministers endangers the new settlement and further worsens Israel's international status.

MOSHAVIM SECRETARY WILLING TO EVACUATE BARNE'A

TA021340Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 2 Mar 78 TA

[Text] The secretary of the Moshavim Movement, Arye Nehamqin, says that his movement is ready to evacuate the settlers of the Qadesh Barne'a nucleus after the government's decision on the matter of settlement is clarified. According to Nehamqin, this will constitute the first evacuation of a settlement that has already been established. Twenty of the nucleus members have been in place for 7 months. Talking to our correspondent Shim'on Schiffer, Nehamqin said that the settlers moved to the place with the approval of the previous and present governments, and that therefore he views the defense minister's order forbidding them to enter the permanent settlement as an act tantamount to evacuating it.

CABINET DECIDES NO SETTLEMENT IN QADESH BARNE'A

TA021623Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 2 Mar 78 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Text] At the present stage no settlement will be established in Qadesh Barne'a. This was agreed this morning in a debate in which, among others, the prime minister, the defense minister and the minister of agriculture took part.

Mr Begin reported on the debate to correspondents who were waiting at the door of his office. It was agreed in that debate that the defense minister's directive to freeze the work in Qadesh Barne'a was in accord with the cabinet decision of Sunday. This is reported by our correspondent Yosi La'or Asher Fish adds details:

From the debate today it emerges that the interpretation given to the cabinet decision by the foreign minister in the middle of the week at the Zionist Congress was that accepted by most of the ministers. The meaning of Sunday's decision is: A freeze on all the work in the Sinai settlements, and the establishment of no new settlements in Sinai. The status of the settlement in Qadesh Barne'a, it was determined today in the debate, arises from the situation on the spot. There is no settlement there and so, in accordance with the cabinet decision, no settlement is now to be established. Thus, the minister of agriculture's claim that the reference is to an existing settlement decided upon by the previous cabinet, was not accepted. There is no settlement there and we have no intention of cheating ourselves or trying to cheat the world; thus one of the participants in the debate expressed himself this afternoon. The minister of agriculture, it is also known, is angry about today's conclusion, but all our attempts to get Mr Sharon's reaction failed.

In the Ministry of Defense, regret was expressed today at the publicity in the communications media about the defense minister's order. On the issue of the settlements, we were told: The defense minister has always acted in accordance with the cabinet's decisions and he is the one responsible for the carrying out of decisions in the field, and not the minister of agriculture.

Prime Minister Menahem Begin was also asked to react today to the developments in regard to Qadesh Barne'a. Did the defense minister's move fit in with the cabinet decision, he was asked, and he replied laconically:

[Begin--recorded] You should have asked the ministers appointed over this matter, but there was a debate on this matter and I can tell you that everything will be fine. The cabinet made a decision and, with regard to the meaning of the decision, everything will be fine.

Press Raps Cabinet Decision

TA030818Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 3 Mar 78 TA

[Review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpts] Most of the papers deal with the settlement affair in Qadesh Barne'a. DAVAR says that the march of events in this affair reveal the internal weakness of the Likud government. The government is solely responsible for the unprecedented self-abuse in which an army force was called on to intervene in and practically to resolve a disagreement between two ministers. The immediate victims of this situation are the members of the Qadesh Barne'a settlement who have always acted according to instructions received from the government and did not expect to be faced with IDF forces. An additional victim is the Israeli public that feels the lack of credibility of the government.

HAZOFE writes that the interpretation given by the prime minister to the government's decision in his meeting with the defense and agriculture ministers yesterday reflects a new policy heretofore unknown; a policy of freezing settlement in the Sinai region as a gesture in the negotiations now being conducted through Alfred Atherton.

It is regrettable that the government's decisions are not sufficiently clear and that each minister interprets them as he likes. The government should act as a united body executing a single policy. Every deviation from this policy gives rise to a feeling in public opinion in Israel and the world that the government lacks credibility. It is impossible to return to the situation prevailing in the previous government where every minister had his own policy, a situation which caused the government to forfeit the trust of the people.

HAMODI'A says that the continuation of settlement in the Sinai in the midst of the negotiations cannot strengthen Israel, nor can it win support in public opinion. The government should prove that it is in control of the situation and that its policy is determined in accordance with a single criterion and not according to complex and incomprehensible considerations.

'AL HAMISHMAR is of the opinion that the government has lately adopted a policy which disrupts the peace process. It is exactly because of this that it is impossible to know whether the prime minister's decision regarding Qadesh Barne'a constitutes a change. We cannot but wait and see if this is indeed the case.

The Jerusalem POST says that Mr Begin should now realize that he is not only playing the opposition's game in presenting an internally divided cabinet but that he is also providing further ammunition to Israel's critics wherever they may be.

OMER believes that insofar as Qadesh Barne'a is concerned the government had the opportunity of allowing a settlement there, inasmuch as this would be carried out according to an old decision dating back to the Rabin government. It is a pity that the government has given up this opportunity.

HA'AREZ writes that Mr Begin must demonstrate within a few months, that he and his colleagues have answers to the most pressing problems faced by the State of Israel--the Arabs, the United States and inflation. If clear proof of this is not presented the Likud will decline, and faster than the Alinement, because it lacks experience in governing. Only silly disciples, and there are not many of them among the public that let the Likud rise to power, can believe that the causes leading to the Alinement's fall will not lead to similar results for the Likud.

SHE'ARIM thinks that we should not keep quiet about the hypocrisy of certain U.S. administration officials who say that mercy should be shown to Egypt and that U.S. aircraft should be supplied to it when the Egyptian Government buys most the modern fighters from France and continues to receive everything it requires for the operation of the Soviet MIGs.

MOSHAV LEADER DISCUSSES POLITICAL ISSUES WITH DAYAN

TA021832Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 2 Mar 78 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Text] The Secretariat of the Labor Party Moshav Movement met this evening with Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan. The talk, which ended a few minutes ago, dealt with political issues and, in particular, with everything involving the Rafah approaches. At the end of the meeting our correspondent Sara Frankel talked with Arik Nehamqin, the secretary of the Moshav Movement. [Begin recording]

[Question] You have a problem in that area, that is, Qadesh Barne'a. Did you also put this issue to the foreign minister?

[Answer] certainly. He divided it into two: one part, regarding the establishment of settlements--who is to settle, how, in what way-- he said that was connected with two ministers whose job it is to deal with the issue; the minister of agriculture, who is the chairman of the Settlement Committeee, and the defense minister, who is responsible for security. [The second part is] concerning his view or what he knows, he said there was no decision in this cabinet to remove the Qadesh Barne'a settlement, which was decided on once, but it appeared logical to him that now is not the right time to transfer from the temporary to the permanent settlement.

[Question] Did you accept this view?

[Answer] Since we do not decide in place of the cabinet, because we have no pretensions to decide for the cabinet on these issues, if it is a problem of timing, I have accepted it. If, after a time there is no final decision as to when we move, then there will have to be a decision as to whether we go or stay.

[Question] Did you hold talks today with the defense minister on this issue?

[Answer] I was supposed to be with the minister of defense at 1830. The talk here lasted longer than planned and I asked for a 1/2 hour postponement. I had a talk with the defense minister on the telephone and we agreed, after I heard the foreign minister's view, that we would meet right after his return from the United States.

[Question] To conclude, a final question on an internal-political question: Did you speak with Moshe Dayan about the possibility of your joining him in a new political campaign?

[Answer] I reviewed my talk with him for everyone. I said--there are 26 witnesses here--to keep the record straight, that we never mentioned, even one word on the political issue, his or our political future and the battle we are now conducting within the Labor Party on the dissolution of the Alinement.

[Question] Thank you very much. [end recording]

ARCHEOLOGICAL COUNCIL DISCUSSES SHILO EXCAVATIONS

TA021625Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 2 Mar 78 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Text] The Archeological Council held a debate last night on the issue of the excavations in Shilo, attended by the minister of education and culture, Zevulun Hammer. The council pointed out in that no request for excavations had ever been submitted and no permit to carry out archeological excavations there had ever been granted. If a request is submitted, they said, it will be discussed in the usual way. The council pointed out the education minister's announcement that there would be no deviation from the accepted procedures and processes regarding permission for the carrying out of the archeologicl excavations.

MA' ARIV REPORTS ON GROWTH OF YAMIT SETTLEMENT

TA021432Y Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 2 Mar 78 p 3 TA

[By 'Ezra Yanuv]

[Text] Yamit's population grows by four to five new families per week--Yamit steering committee secretary, David Harton, said in reply to a question by the MA'ARIV correspondent.

Last week four new apartments were sold to candidate families which had been interviewed in Tel Aviv. Yesterday a delegation from Yamit interviewed 14 candidate families from Jerusalem, five of which have been approved by Yamit's population committee.

Following last months' announcements of the possibility of acquiring apartments in Yamit, 120 families from all over the country applied. Mr Hartom says that "the bottleneck is the employment situation in Yamit."

Hope lies in the rapid development of the recreation branch. A new field school has been opened on the shore of Yamit and it has taken its first class of students. The Yamit campground will be officially opened on the Feast of Pentecost. A resort village will be opened in 6 weeks, and a group of entrepeneurs has already received approval for plans to construct the first hotel on the shore of Yamit.

Yamit's settlers have approached the government, asking that it avoid raising the price of water in order to allow the settlers to water their gardens. "We have to pay 400 pounds a month for the water needed to keep a garden around a house in Yamit"--resident explained.

DAVAR REPORTS ON PLANNED WEIZMAN-CARTER MEETING

TA030910Y Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 3 Mar 78 p 1 TA

[Text] The meeting between Jimmy Carter and Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman next week in Washington was arranged at the initiative of the President and without the prior knowledge of the minister of defense. Mainly political issues will be discussed at this meeting and it appears that Carter will try to reinforce the defense minister's position favoring exhausting every possibility in the framework of the negotiations with Egypt in order to reach a peace treaty.

President Carter will almost certainly try to gain the defense minister's support for significant concessions on the part of Israel. The meeting was arranged in order to prepare the ground for the talk with Prime Minister Menahem Begin in about another 10 days. In his contacts with Israeli leaders, Carter is trying to renew the direct talks between Egypt and Israel, either in the framework of the military and political committees in Cairo and Jerusalem or within another framework and possibly elsewhere. It may be that, in the meeting with the minister of defense, the U.S. President will also raise the matter of the supply of sophisticated weapons to Israel and the scope of the security assistance to it.

The defense minister's trip to Washington was set at the end of last year and was intended from the beginning to be devoted to a discussion of military aid and the procurement request. However, this trip was postponed twice because of the direct talks which began between Egypt and Israel after As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem. As stated, on his visit to Washington the defense minister will also deal with the procurement issues and the keeping of the promises made in the past on everything touching on the quantities and types of arms, including the supply of aircraft, tanks, sophisticated equipment and so on. 'Ezer Weizman will stay in the United States for 10 days to 2 weeks and will visit New York and Washington.

UN REPORT CITES ISRAELI INCURSIONS IN S. LEBANON

TA022112Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 2 Mar 78 TA

[Text] Last month actions by irregular forces against UN observers' lookout stations in southern Lebanon increased. This is stated in an official document by the observers.

In the areas in Christian hands, 12 UN vehicles were stolen, lookout points were entered by force 13 times and there were several shooting incidents. Such actions also occurred in the areas held by the terrorists and in Beirut.

The report states further that a group of soldiers from Israel with military and civilian vehicles crossed the border with Lebanon several times in order to pave a road from the border to the Christian village 'Alma ash-Sha'b. Israeli artillery also fired several times at the village Al-Khiyam and Israeli aircraft overflew Lebanese skies 13 times. Israeli forces, the UN report says, continue to maintain six positions on the Lebanese side of the border.

TERRORISTS OVERRUN VILLAGE IN SOUTHERN LEBANON

TA030710Y Jerusalem POST in English 3 Mar 78 p 2 TA

[Excerpt] Dovev--In a bitter clash in a south Lebanon village of (Marun al-Ras) yesteray, terrorists and Syrian-backed As-Sa'iqah forces succeeded in wresting control of the village, south of the terrorist stronghold of Bint Jubayl. Seven members of the Lebanese forces in the enclave were left behind when the force retreated, and they are still missing. Two Lebanese fighting men were wounded and brought to the good fence clinic here for treatment.

Lebanese who accompanied the wounded to the clinic told the Jerusalem POST that the people of (Marun al-Ras), who are Shi'ite Moslems, had been cooperating with Lebanese forces in the area under the command of Major Sami Shidiaq for some time.

Yesterday morning large forces of terrorists pasted the village with heavy shellfire, the Lebanese said. Lebanese forces went to the defence of the village, moving toward it in a number of tanks and armoured personnel carriers. Very heavy exchanges of fire ensued, which could be heard clearly from the Israeli side of the border. Clouds of dust and smoke could be seen rising from the combat area.

The Lebanese forces succeeded in entering the village, the eyewitnesses said, but they encountered a fierce assault from the terrorists, who succeeded in gaining control of the village.

One of the wounded men at the clinic said that Syrian-backed As-Sa'iqah men took part in the operation. They were easily identifiable from their uniforms and combat markings, he said.

Asked if the IDF had come to the aid of the Lebanese forces, the wounded soldier replied bitterly: "No one came to help us. Not a shot was fired in our support. They simply left us to die there, even though you could see exactly what was happening in the village from the border."

Exchanges of fire between terrorist-held and Christian villages in the salient continued through the afternoon into the evening.

Spokesman Denies IDF Participation

TA021753Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 2 Mar 78 TA

[Text] The terrorists claim that IDF forces today took over a small village, (Marun al-Ras) in southern Lebanon near the border with Israel. In reply to a question the IDF spokesman denied these reports. He said that Israeli forces did not take part in the battles in any way whatsoever. The terrorists said that an IDF force entered the village with armored vehicles and before that 12 villagers were killed in Israeli shelling. The IDF spokesman denied these reports.

SHAH INTERVIEWED ON DOMESTIC ISSUES, RELATIONS WITH FRANCE

LD010018Y Paris Domestic Service in French 1815 GMT 28 Feb 78 LD

[Interview of the shah of Iran, speaking in French, conducted by journalists Edouard Sablier, (Alain Mainvie) and Yves-Paul Vincent, on the "Phone is Ringing" program, broadcast from Niavaran Palace in Teheran via satellite--live]

[Excerpts] [Sablier] Your Majesty, would you discuss the disturbances which have occurred?

[Shah] That is very easy, because for about 2 years we have said to ourselves that after 16 years of revolution--with the reforms that have been carried out--we believed the moment had come when we could grant the maximum of individual freedom to our people. We believed this when we saw all the accomplishments: a per capita revenue which increased from nearly $100 to $2,222 some 3 months ago; the number of those who can read and write has increased greatly; and we have 9 million schoolchildren and nearly 175,000 people in universities.

The political prisoners, as they were called--they were in fact all people who had conspired against the state--they were pardoned, as many as possible. The instigators of these disturbances will be dealt with in civil courts of law. The freedom of expression, the freedom to publish what one wants--even in the newspapers--you can see many things which you did not see some years ago. These freedoms have again allowed what we still call here the blacks and the reds to take advantage of the situation: The reds being the revolutionaries and the blacks being the rebels--the obscurantists. It is a [word indistinct] that nothing changes they always reach agreement to act against the progress of the country. It is a phenomenon--I don't think it is a feature peculiar to us--you can see it to some extent everywhere. But here, it is strange and one sees it very easily. These forces have found this freedom of expression and they do not miss any opportunity to make use of it. Therefore, we see these demonstrations--sometimes well-organized in advance as those at Tabriz. Obviously, we have punished the government officials, charging them with not taking the necessary preventative measures beforehand. We accuse them of not being up to their task, to their responsibilities.

[Unidentified questioner] Your Majesty, you have also put many people in prison in Tabriz according to what we see in France (?by reading) the dispatches?

[Shah] That is rather an exaggeration. I have charged the authorities of our courts of law with the task of carrying out the interrogations. I do not believe that in France or in any other country of the world, that if people began to break windows or to set fire to banks and public institutions, you would let them. You would not give them bouquets, no, I do not think so. [passage indistinct]

[Unidentified questioner] Will the accused have the same trial guarantees in Iran that he would have in France?

[Shah] Yes, certainly, certainly, because the instigators of ordinary disturbances will be brought before the civil law courts. Only those who harm state security will be judged by the military tribunals, out there where the civilians will have the right to be represented by civilian lawyers. [passage indistinct]

[Unidentified questioner] Today, Amnesty International reproached these military tribunals saying they did not give all these guarantees. Is that not so?

[Shah] Yes, in a word they can say what they want, but I know that they will have these rights. (?I know) if they are tried they will have all the possibilities of defending themselves with civilian lawyers.

[Mainvie] Majesty, are you going to sign the UN declaration against torture?

[Shah] We have already done so.

[Mainvie] You have already done so?

[Shah] Yes, oh yes, yes.

[Mainvie] [Words indistinct] are you also preparing a legal reform?

[Shah] Yes, but this reform has been going on a very long time. We earlier adopted the Napoleonic Code. This was obviously very good, but we saw that in practice we had to try and find either another code of law from another country or to draft our own code which would best serve the interests of our people. By doing this we would expedite matters which sometimes dragged on for a rather long time in our courts of law. So we have added and taken over some of the practices of the Anglo-Saxon Codes. We shall continue to use this method to try to make improvements.

[Mainvie] Your majesty, you have been talking about the reforms carried out in Iran for the past 15 years and your country's desire to modernize. Here is a question for French listeners--without wanting to go back to previous subjects--a question one would like to know your answer to is: What is in a modern country--a country that wants to become modern--what is the status of legal opposition in your country? I well understand that you have talked about troublemakers--that is one thing--but how do you view legal opposition in your country?

[Shah] Well, sir, I believe that legal opposition can be seen everyday in the newspapers. Even the deputies of Parliament and Senators when making speeches criticize. In addition it can be seen in the Resurgence Party we founded. I believe this party has in it, representatives of all strata of the population. In other words, within the party there are various trends--more than nuances, even very pronounced trends--some of which advocate doing things one way, others which criticize this way, and others which come forward with new ideas. In addition, we have the Inspectorate which goes deep into matters to find every shortcoming existing in the country, our faults, our weaknesses, all the programs that are behind schedule; and not only simply this, but it perseveres and gets behind the scenes to see that faults are remedied. There are two of these Inspectorates; they are very important. Then there is the public, which has complete freedom of expression in the party, in newspapers and everywhere. Therefore, opposition is exercised on a fully representative scale.

[Sablier] Paris, if you have no questions, perhaps we could touch on the problem of oil?

[Studio announcer] I think Edouard Sablier, Your Majesty, that we could if you like move on to French-Iranian relations. The French people are waiting [word indistinct] today to know whether you are going to buy airbuses from us.

[Shah] But this has already been decided, sir, for some time already. I think that we are going to buy 10 to 12 airbuses from you, and obviously they would suit our purposes, since our air traffic is increasing in an extraordinary fashion. There are delays of planes; there are people who sometimes go to the airport and are told: We regret there are no more seats. A great country like ours needs well-equipped airlines, and I believe the airbus will answer our needs very well, inside our country.

[Unidentified questioner] The final signing still has not taken place. Do you think it will be signed soon?

[Shah] Oh, yes. I do not think there is any obstacle to that.

[Questioner] Also, you had taken out options on Concorde. Are they still valid?

[Shah] Yes, but we have (?heard) that the manufacture of Concorde has been halted.

[Questioner] So it is because of this that you are not pushing forward....

[Shah] Yes, there is that and also we are waiting to see if Concorde really does lose money or whether....

[Questioner] But I believe that there are still two to sell all the same.

[Another unidentified questioner] Listen, we are not here to sell planes; we are here to talk about them.

[Questioner] Our listener is not on the line. I summed up his question which concerns the French nuclear powerstations. We had the impression that you would buy quite a few nuclear powerstations from us, but now we have the impression that matters are not going quite so well between Iran and France in this respect. What is the truth, Your Majesty?

[Shah] No, I believe the opposite is the case. We have already signed an agreeement for the two nuclear powerstations with a 900-megawatt capacity, and we are ready to sign a new agreement for four or even six nuclear powerstations. Maybe we will ask that the capacity be stepped up to 1,200 megawatts, but, finally, this is not a matter that ought to be an obstacle. At any rate, our relations from the point of view of atomic energy are excellent, and I believe that we will soon find a climate of understanding for the signing of new agreements.

[Sablier] Sirs, I believe that in the region to which you belong and which is of particular concern to you, there are now two big problems of interest to you. There is the problem of the war between Somalia and Ethiopia, on which Iran has voiced its opinion two or three times, and then the Israeli-Arab problem, which is now being reflected in the talks between As-Sadat and the Israelis. So, on the first point, what can you tell us?

[Shah] The first point: On the one hand we are obliged, I would say, to respect the international borders of the African countries, because if one begins upsetting them, I believe one will never finish. On the one hand there is the principle of recognition of the international borders.

[Sablier interrupting] And eventually disapprove a Somali offensive aimed at taking part of Ethiopia.

[Shah] To take a part, certainly!

[Sablier] On the other hand, it is said that the Ogaden's inhabitants are of origin other than Ethiopian.

[Shah] No, but the question is that our warning is that Ethiopia must not go beyond, if it advances with regular troops, the international borders of Somalia. In fact Ethiopia has 30 million inhabitants, Somalia only 3 million and today they are helped by other people who are coming in great numbers.

[Sablier] This is an allusion to, I believe, as the Americans believe, the Russians and the Cubans.

[Shah] Yes, I believe it is mainly the Cubans who are there in great numbers, and one asks: Where is all this going to stop, this kind of situation? First there was Angola, and nobody said anything because the African countries had accepted the matter, and now as the situation starts in Ethiopia, in the Horn of Africa, one is asking how far will it go?

[Sablier] Are you ready to help Somalia?

[Shah] We have said that we cannot remain indifferent.

[Unidentified questioner] Here is my question on foreign policy. In the Middle East there is a deadlock between President as-Sadat and Begin. Does Your Majesty believe that in this situation Your Majesty can suggest a peace plan.

[Shah] Well, from the very beginning we have been absolutely supporting President as-Sadat's peace plan. We have found it extremely courageous, a step taken by a person at a, well, rather unexpected moment but which was absolutely dramatic; namely, the opening of a door which hiteherto had remained closed. Just as we find President as-Sadat's initiative an honorable initiative, we find it also practical. All the points it puts forward are in full confirmity with the resolutions which were adopted at the United Nations, Resolution Nos 242 and 338. We believe that this would be an almost unhoped-for opportunity that an initiative for peace in this part of the world should come about, where for almost 30 years we have witnessed very great misfortunes.

[Yves-Paul Vincent] Majesty, if in connection with the Middle East you would be invited to be a mediator between Egypt and Israel, what would you reply?

[Shah] No, I believe that in fact this is not a question of being afriad of getting one's fingers burned, but I believe that one must rather await the development of what is actually going on today. Naturally, if this advances to the point where one could take matters to Geneva for a general peace, then all the better.

[Vincent] You prefer...

[Shah] At any rate, any peace initiative and anything that may happen that would lead to the solution of this serious problem, would obviously be applauded heartily by us.

[Vincent] You prefer to limit your role to the Persian Gulf?

[Shah] Yes, and maybe we also ought to advance a little into the Indian Ocean which is its continuation: at the Persian Gulf the oceans meet, there is really no defined border between the oceans, therefore, our duty is to prepare ourselves for any entry into the Indian Ocean.

[Vincent] But do you believe that the Americans and the Soviets would agree to see you play a role in the Indian Ocean?

[Shah] I believe that this is not their business, and we too can reproach them for having come to the Indian Ocean, saying that you are not even littoral countries there. At any rate, we have after all our shore quite near the Indian Ocean. We have more right to be in the Indian Ocean than the other countries who are not littoral countries.

[Vincent] In the Persian Gulf, is Saudi Arabia not a serious competitor for you?

[Shah] I do not believe so, not at all. There is good understanding between us. Contacts are increasing every day, I believe that there is perfect understanding.

[Vincent] I think this understanding was apparent above all in the recent oil talks where Saudi Arabia and Iran had rather similar attitudes.

[Shah] Yes, obviously, but our attitude was not guided by our existing understanding with Saudi Arabia. Our attitude was adopted for several reasons: First, the rather lamentable state of the world economy, mainly of the Western countries, and the international monetary crisis, and now we see the collapse of the dollar, and so finally we understand very well that if we believed that we could increase our revenue by selling our oil at a higher price we would actually lose because inflation, which we could not avoid, would have been forced upon us. We are in the process of development; we have to make purchases; and, well, the industrialized countries say to us: If you force your price upon us, we will force our price on you, and this is what has happened.

[Unidentified questioner] I wanted to ask you: The Iranian Army is generally considered, apart from the two superpowers, to be one of the best equipped and best trained in the world, and in particular its area. The Imperial Iranian Forces intervened forcefully and effectively in southern Oman a few years ago to restore order for Sultan Qabus. Do you think that the Ogaden affair could lead to a military intervention by your troops in Somalia?

[Shah] Well, first, we did this in Oman because the sultan of Oman asked us to go there, and then we did so within the limits of our logistical possibilities. I could not give an accurate answer to your question because Ogaden is first of all a very great distance from my country, and then we hope that either the African states will deal with this question, and in addition to the African states there is always the United Nations and the Security Council. I hope that matters may be resolved due to the good will, first of the two countries involved and then of the others. But as I have told you, every country obviously has its logistical limitations. We are not going to embark on adventures which we would then not be able to control.

[Sablier] Talking about oil, you have spoken about the collapse of the dollar. Does this lead you to replace the dollar with other means of payment for your oil?

[Shah] I believe, Mr Sablier, that this is a question which is being seriously tackled by OPEC. Even countries like Saudi Arabia talk more about it than we do. Because we can still buy a lot in America, military equipment as well as nuclear power stations, or so I now hope, and other things like capital goods. But it is above all the other countries who are receiving the money who are now losing at least 20 percent of their purchasing power and so they are very much concerned about that. And I believe this is because the Americans are buying far too much oil abroad and their negative balance of payments is a good or a bad reason for this; as a matter of fact they are buying too much oil. And for this reason we fully agree that Mr Carter's plan, that the president of the United States should be able to carry his plan to completion and that American should really adopt an energy policy.

[Sablier] Sire, you have chosen for Iran a policy of independence, of nonalinement placed between the two blocs, and of independent national defense. Well, I would like to ask you what your present opinion on the development of one bloc and the other, (?that is) the United States and the Soviet Union, in regard to you and to their relations with each other?

[Shah] Well, Mr Sablier, it is true that we have a policy of national independence, in all respects--economic as well as political. But we also have certain alliances such as CENTO where our direct neighbors such as Turkey, Pakistan and Britain also take part, and the United States is there as an observer. Our policy of independence demands that we should adopt two cardinal policies: one is economic independence and the other is military independence. As far as military independence in the case of a nonnuclear country is concerned, it is a matter naturally of saying and of showing that this is a country which would defend itself if it were attacked, and that we should be taken seriously, as it is seen that within our own means, and for a probably limited duration, we are a country which can defend itself. From the economic point of view, the same applies. We shall soon be a big steel producer and a big producer of other nonferrous metals and we will really be able to remain independent, in other words, we will be able to have economic agreements with the Common Market as well as with the communist CEMA or with Japan or America. Well, all this shows I believe, the full independence of our economic policy.

[Studio] A last question, Edouard Sablier?

[Sablier] Well, the last question I ask you every time I see you, Sire: How do you see the immediate future in your region, on the one hand, and perhaps by broadening out a little, in another region like ours?

[Shah] I do not know, Mr Sablier, if I could speak to you as an optimist. There are so many things which are linked one to another. I could speak to you about the interdependence of Europe and of my country and of this region; because if Europe began to founder or a misfortune occurred, well, that would have a direct influence on us. And if that part of the world also came to be in a state of disturbance--if the world of Europe, or if the Western world came to lose its access to the hydrocarbons of this region, well, I think that you would find yourselves in a very precarious situation.

[Studio] Your Majesty, I thank you.

INDIA

GDR PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION TOLDS TALKS WITH LEADERS

LD011744Y East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1315 GMT 1 Mar 78 LD

[Text] New Delhi--Horst Sindermann, president of the GDR People's Chamber, met leading representatives of India on Wednesday in New Delhi for talks. During a meeting with President Neelam Sanjeeva Reddy, Prime Minister Morarji Desai and speaker of the Lok Sabha (Indian Parliament's lower house), K.S. Hegde, the two sides expressed their great interest in further expanding the longstanding friendly relations between the two states and peoples.

Horst Sindermann is leading a delegation of GDR parliamentary deputies which arrived in New Delhi on Wednesday morning on an official visit to India. The delegation is there at the invitation of the two houses of the Indian Parliament. It consists of deputies of all parties united in the GDR National Front and one member of the FDJ group.

The delegation was cordially welcomed at the Indian capital's airport by K.S. Hegde. The Lok Sabha speaker expressed his conviction that the GDR parliamentarians' 1-week visit would promote contacts between the two countries and particularly between their parliaments.

During its stay the delegation will visit the conference halls and other institutions of the Indian Parliament, and will hold talks with deputies and with chief ministers and parliamentarians in the Union States of Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Maharashtra. Also on the agenda is a meeting with the chairman of the Rajya Sabha (upper house), Vice President Banappa Dasappa Jatti.

After the talks with Reddy and Desai, Sindermann told journalists that this political exchange of views on topical issues concerning international development and on the traditionally friendly bilateral relations had been marked by agreement, for the most part, between the participants in the talks. The GDR and India are equally interested in establishing neighborly international relations among all states on the basis of peaceful coexistence.

During the talks Sindermann conveyed greetings from Erich Honecker, SED general secretary and state council chairman, as well as from Premier Willi Stoph, which were cordially reciprocated. The delegation laid a wreath at the Rajghat, the memorial to Mahatma Gandhi.

Meets With Vajpayee

LD021605Y East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1139 GMT 2 Mar 78 LD

[Text] New Delhi--On the second day of the GDR parliamentary delegation's official visit to India, People's Chamber President Horst Sindermann was received today by Indian Foreign Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. During the meeting both men spoke in favor of expanding friendly relations between the two countries and looked at topical world-political issues with views which were largely in agreement. The GDR, Horst Sindermann said, fully and completely supported India's demand for a zone of peace in the Indian Ocean and shared the view that all responsible statesmen in the world should work for a peaceful solution to the dangerous conflict in the Horn of Africa.

Both sides regarded disarmament as a main issue which must soon be resolved. Foreign Minister Vajpayee stressed that developing countries such as India, whose main efforts were aimed at overcoming hunger, could not waste their forces in the arms race. The accumulation of weapons, he stressed, created an atmosphere of mistrust in the world.

Horst Sindermann stressed to the GDR correspondents that he had fully supported this view. The Indian foreign minister had informed him that India would be represented at the coming UN special session on disarmament by Prime Minister Morarji Desai, because of the importance of the problem.

The People's Chamber delegation had previously visited the conference halls of the upper and lower houses in New Delhi and had for a while followed the debates of the deputies. It had also visited the central hall and the great reading room in the India Parliament.

This afternoon the GDR delegation met with Indian parliamentarians for an exchange of views and experiences. Horst Sindermann briefed the hosts on the course of development, the method of working and the aims of socialist democracy and on the parliamentary mechanism in the GDR. With regard to the purpose of the visit, he stated that whomever, like the deputies, carried responsibility before his people, also had the duty of working for friendship with other peoples. He had also found this view confirmed by his Indian partners in his talks so far in New Delhi. All meetings had endorsed the mutual conviction that such regular consultations were of the highest value for peoples in order to live together in peace.

In an address to representatives of the public of the Indian capital, the People's Chamber president explained during the evening in the building of the "Indian Council for International Affairs," the principles of the GDR's foreign policy which are aimed at a stable world peace, complete disarmament and detente. He underlined the GDR's high regard for the policy of nonalinement prominently promoted by India.

METALLURGY AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH SOVIET UNION

BK251218Y Delhi ISI in English 1018 GMT 25 Feb 78 BK

[Text] A protocol on cooperation between India and the Soviet Union in the field of nonferrous metallurgy was signed in New Delhi in 24 February. A. F. Tyuriakov, leader of the Soviet delegation, signed on behalf of the USSR and Doctor A. K. Ghosh, additional secretary--mines--signed on behalf of India. This was done in conformity with the joint Soviet-Indian declaration providing for further development of cooperation in the main fields of the Indian economy which was signed on 26 October 1977 in Moscow by Morarji Desai and L. I. Brezhnev. During the past 2 weeks there have been detailed discussions between the delegation of Soviet experts on nonferrous metallurgy and representatives of the Ministry of Steel and Mines and officials of various public sector undertakings dealing with nonferrous metals.

The possibilities of further promotion of cooperation in the field of nonferrous metallurgy have been emphasised in the protocol. It has been noted with satisfaction that there has been a successful development of economic and technical cooperation in the construction of the Kobra aluminum smelter of Balco [Bharat Aluminum Company]. The document lays stress on long-term cooperation in the development and production of nonferrous metals and also on evolving effective methods of concentration for polymetallic ores.

PATRIOT SCORES HAROLD BROWN'S LOS ANGELES SPEECH

BK281115Y Delhi PATRIOT in English 23 Feb 78 p 2 BK

["Comment" column: "The Bully"]

[Text] Following the U.S. decision to stall the talks with Moscow on demilitarization of the Indian Ocean and President Carter's uncalled for warning to Ethiopia, comes another announcement which shows a new, more aggressive attitude that Washington is taking in its global strategy. U.S. Defence Secretary Harold Brown said in a policy speech in Los Angeles on Monday that his country was planning to strengthen its strategic forces in Asia and upgrade its fleet in the Pacific. He has thus blown sky-high all hopes of relaxation of tensions and creation of a zone of peace in the Indian Ocean. These hopes had little basis for those who have watched Mr Carter's evolution as President. He soon forgot the promises he made during his election campaign and gradually changed into a hawkish personality. His defence secretary has in a forthright manner given a brief list of the advanced weapon systems he is going to introduce into the Asian and Pacific region. These include Trident nuclear missiles, cruise missiles and the most modern bombers and fighters, apart from sophisticated aerial warning and control systems. The reasons given are revealing "uncertainties" that the U.S. forces face in the area. According to officials these uncertainties are possible changes for "better or worse" in Soviet-Chinese relations, hostility between North and South Korea and Vietnam's possible "adventurism" against noncommunist neighbours. Evidently, the U.S. forces have to intervene in very case, even where better relations are established between two countries. Mr Brown uncovers the ugly face of U.S. policy in the following statement: "The situation in Asia is more favourable to our interests than in the past; we want to ensure that this environment continues". This is obviously to be done by a show of military strength, like a bully flexing his muscles.

PAKISTAN

SOMALI MINISTER CALLS ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS ADVISER

BK261322Y Karachi Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 26 Feb 78 BK

[Text] The Somali minister for information, Mr Abdi Kassim Salad, who arrived in Islamabad today, called on the adviser on foreign affairs, Mr Agha Shahi. He apprised Mr Agha Shahi on the military and political situation in the Horn of Africa and the various diplomatic moves by different countries to promote a peaceful solution to the conflict.

The Somali ambassador to Pakistan was also present during the talks which lasted nearly 45 minutes.

Leaves for Peking

LD271252Y Karachi Overseas Service in English 1100 GMT 27 Feb 78 LD

[Excerpts] Visiting Somali information minister, Abdi Kassim Salad, left for Peking on Sunday after a visit to Islamabad.

The Somali minister for information called on the adviser on foreign affairs, Agha Shahi, in Islamabad. He apprised Agha Shahi of the military and political situation in the Horn of Africa and the various diplomatic moves by different countries to promote a peaceful solution to the conflict.

SRI LANKA

VIETNAMESE PRIME MINISTER ARRIVES FOR OFFICIAL VISIT

BK0211085Y Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 2 Mar 78 BK

[Text] The prime minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Mr Pham Van Dong, arrived in Sri Lanka this afternoon on an official visit. He was greeted at the Katunayake International Airport by the prime minister, Mr R. Premadasa. The visiting prime minister was accorded a navy guard of honor. Later he was conducted in a state drive to Auckland House, Colombo.

This evening the visiting Vietnamese leader will call on the prime minister at Temple Trees [prime minister's office]. Tomorrow Mr Pham Van Dong will call on the president, Mr J.R. Jayewardene, followed by official talks between the president of Sri Lanka and the Vietnamese prime minister. On Saturday the 4th, he will visit the Royal Botanical Gardens at Peradinya and the (Sri Galadamaligava) in Kandy. The same afternoon he will inspect the Mahavelli diversion scheme at (?Ponkhulla). On Sunday morning he will attend a news conference and leave Sri Lanka by a special flight.

The official Vietnamese party includes the minister of foreign trade, Mr Dang Viet Chau, and the vice minister of foreign affairs, Mr Nguyen Co Thach. Mr Lalith Athulathmudali, minister of trade, will be the minister in attendance.

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT GET POLICE PROTECTION

BK0114507 Colombo WEEKEND in English 26 Feb 78 p 1 BK

[By Ranil Weerasinghe]

[Excerpt] The police have been ordered to provide protection for the houses of government MPs following intelligence reports of threats to cause disturbances.

The inspector general of police, Mr. Stanley Senanayake, last week told his deputies to inform their heads of divisions to undertake this task immediately.

The directive came following a top level conference he held with DIGs [deputy inspector generals] and other senior officers at police headquarters.

The conference, it is learnt, discussed reports of alleged attempts by certain anonymous groups to storm MPs' houses with the intention of causing mischief and even violence.

The police chief told the conference that precautionary operations be undertaken with immediate effect and continued for at least one week. He has said that in addition to mobile patrols, officers in charge of police stations should on their daily rounds keep an eye on the residents of MPs.

All heads of police divisions throughout Sri Lanka have been told to inform police headquarters of the position regarding stock of weapons and ammunition.

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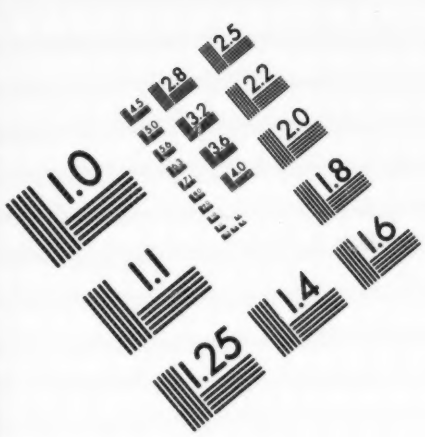

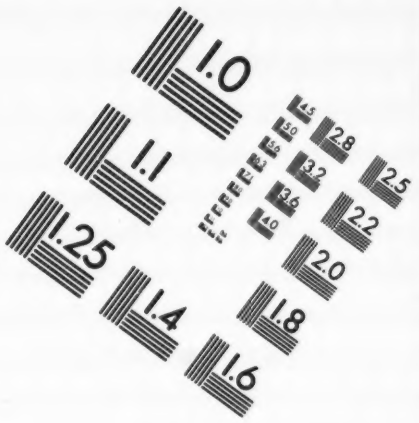

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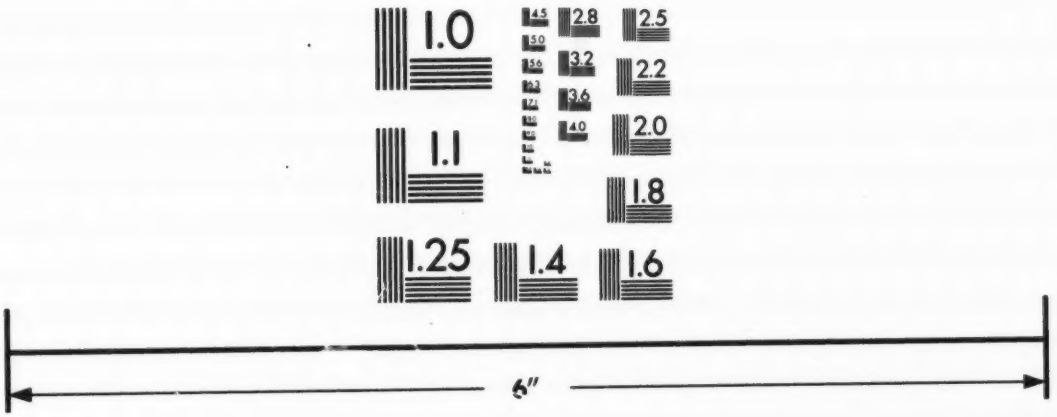

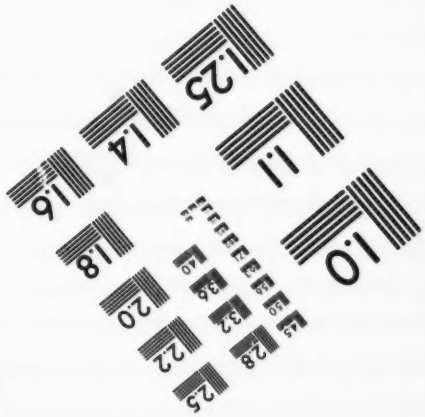

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